



# LYNNE TRUSS

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# THE TIMES

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## Royal commission provokes battle

# Judges will fight to keep trial by jury

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government faces a head-on collision with Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, with other senior judges and the legal profession if ministers, as the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice recommends, scrap a defendant's right to elect jury trial.

The Times has learnt that the commission, which publishes its 352 recommendations today, proposes the removal of a defendant's right to elect jury trial in certain cases. The proposal is likely to be the most controversial of all the main recommendations today and certain to lead to a prolonged battle in parliament and outside if adopted by the government.

## Proposals to abolish automatic right to jury trial could lead to a fierce battle both in parliament and among members of the legal establishment

The commission recommends that where the case is one that can be heard either by magistrates or in a crown court, a defendant might not have the automatic right to jury trial. If the defence and the Crown Prosecution Service cannot agree on where the case should be heard, the magistrates would decide.

Lord Taylor, who tomorrow will address the annual Lord Mayor's dinner for the judiciary, has already made clear he would resist proposals to modify the right to jury trial as "not in the interests of justice".

A second recommendation - for a formal system of what the commission calls "sentence discounts" (plea-bargaining) along the lines originally proposed in a report to the Bar Council - has aroused some concern, but also has wide support within the legal profession and judiciary. The commission is proposing that sentence discounts should be offered by judges where, at a formal hearing, a defendant makes a guilty plea. The earlier the plea, the higher the discount.

The other main planks of the commission's report are: the establishment of an independent criminal cases review authority to investigate alleged miscarriages of justice; the Court of Appeal to be more prepared to receive fresh evidence and alleged errors by lawyers to be a ground of appeal.

A forensic science advisory council to oversee standards of the forensic science service and a code of practice for the service, with new public sector forensic science laboratories available to defence and prosecution; magistrates' committal hearings to be abolished; judges to have the power to halt proceedings if a prosecution case is "demonstrably unsafe or unsatisfactory".

tighter rules on confessions, but no rule outlawing all uncorroborated confessions; defence disclosure of case before trial or face adverse comment before jury, but no other tampering with the right to silence; the statutory ban on jury research to go; power for judges to order a jury to include up to three ethnic minority members.

There are proposals aimed at improving the victim's lot: a new requirement for victims of crime to be kept informed by the Crown Prosecution Service of the progress and outcome of a case and a victim support scheme to be set up at all crown court centres.

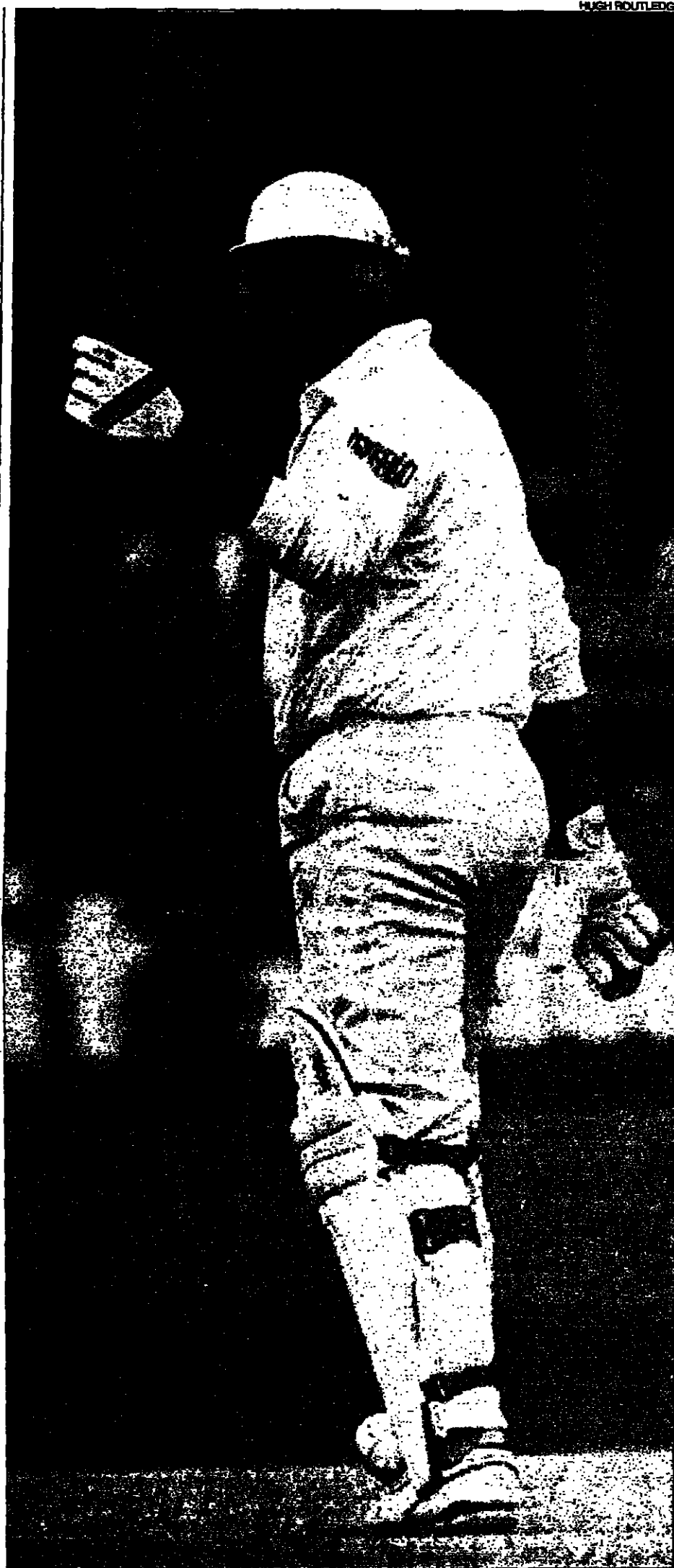
The Crown Prosecution Service should be given power to discontinue prosecutions up to the start of trial (the power now applies only up to committal); a DNA data bank, computerisation of custody records and video-recording of police custody suites.

There are recommendations aimed at reducing police malpractice: a help-line scheme for officers to report cases of suspected malpractice; removal of the rule whereby acquittal of a police officer in a court is a bar to disciplinary proceedings; and a lower standard of proof in disciplinary proceedings than a right for officers to seek damages.

Incompetent lawyers will face tougher sanctions and judges will be urged to refer poor standards to the disciplinary bodies.

The Serious Fraud Office would have the power to delegate investigations to police outside its own staff. Other proposals aimed at improving trial procedure are time limits on lawyers' opening and closing speeches and more pre-trial hearings to clarify disagreements on scientific evidence.

Hard bargaining, page 9  
Law, pages 33-36



Captain courageous: Graham Gooch on the way to his century at Trent Bridge yesterday

## Backbench Tories draw the line on defence cuts

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND MICHAEL EVANS

SENIOR Tory backbenchers drew the battlelines for a fierce tussle with the Treasury this autumn and left ministers in no doubt that they will not tolerate another round of deep cuts in the nation's defences.

As Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, announced a further big round of cuts in the Royal Navy and the RAF arising from last November's £1.05 billion reduction in his budget, Conservatives reluctantly agreed to stay their hand. However, they served notice on Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, that the £24 billion defence budget must not be a target for more big savings in the current spending round.

Mr Rifkind said the latest round of cuts was made possible because developments in the past 12 months had enhanced Britain's security. He referred to the "continued consolidation" of the friendship and co-operation between Nato and the former Soviet Union.

Sir Nicholas Bonsor, the Tory chairman of the all-party defence select committee, said he saw no prospect of the government being able to reduce the commitments of the armed forces.

"That being so, it must follow that no further cuts in resources can be made by the Treasury to the funds which are made available to the Ministry of Defence," he said. Mr Rifkind confirmed the decision to sell or mothball the four new £900-million Upholder class conventional submarines. A third phase of the army's multiple launch rocket system programme has also been cancelled, wasting a further £100 million already spent. One Tornado F3 squadron is also to go. Although not included in

the white paper, an RAF support base is also to be closed. Three bases are being studied.

Sir Nicholas's stark warning was echoed by Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, a member of the 1922 executive, who said that many Tory MPs recognised the forces were "fully stretched" and that they did not want Mr Rifkind to come back and seek further cuts. Winston Churchill deplored the "relentless run-down" of the armed forces from a low base. Labour renewed its call for a full-scale



defence review in place of the government's piecemeal approach, which had got the country's defences "into a mess".

With this year's spending round billed as the toughest in 15 years against the background of a £50 billion budget deficit, Mr Rifkind faces an uphill struggle in warding off another Treasury raid.

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Lawrence Freedman, page 18  
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## Carey foresees women bishops

By RUTH GLEDHILL  
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said yesterday that women would become bishops in the Church of England. Dr Carey, a strong supporter of women priests, said: "I have no doubt that that will happen one day," adding that he had "no hesitation" on theological grounds that women should become bishops.

Dr Carey made his comments as he and Dr John Habgood, the Archbishop of York, gave evidence last night to the ecclesiastical committee of Parliament. This was the first time that the church leadership has openly avowed its intention to see women in the episcopate.

The committee, chaired by Lord Templeman, a law lord, is examining the legislation to ordain women to the priesthood, passed by the general synod last November, and is expected to vote next week. Continued on page 2, col 7

## British aid volunteer killed in Sarajevo's 'Sniper Alley'

By LIN JENKINS

A BRITISH volunteer aid worker was shot dead in Bosnia yesterday when the lorry in which she was travelling came under sniper fire.

Christine Witcutt, 56, who was working for the charity Edinburgh Direct Aid, was killed when her vehicle was ambushed on a road known as "Sniper's Alley" on the outskirts of Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital. The lorry had the words "Don't Shoot" printed in large letters on both sides.

She was hit in the arm and chest as the six-lorry convoy began its return journey to the UK after delivering medical supplies to Sarajevo. Mrs Witcutt, a retired teacher and mother of two from Netherthorn, Lancashire, died as she was being taken to the French military hospital for medical attention, United Nations sources said.

Her husband, Alan, 63, a retired mobile library driver, was driving another lorry in the convoy. The couple were on their second mission to Bosnia this year with the charity which operates outside the UN relief effort. A spokesman for the charity said last night that the other drivers were safe. Her body was later taken to the UN Protection Force headquarters in Sarajevo. A spokesman for the Foreign Office said it would be flown to Nato base in northern Italy, with her husband in attendance. Some of the group will return by air today and others by road.



Witcutt: "always willing to help"

man for the charity said last night that the other drivers were safe. Her body was later taken to the UN Protection Force headquarters in Sarajevo. A spokesman for the Foreign Office said it would be flown to Nato base in northern Italy, with her husband in attendance. Some of the group will return by air today and others by road.

After her first mission to Bosnia, Mrs Witcutt said that their children, Paul, 23, and Julie, 19, did not approve of their work. Shortly before making their latest trip, her

husband had said: "Once we reach Bosnia we just don't know what we'll be faced with." But Mrs Witcutt said: "We're sure the soldiers will take good care of us."

Yesterday Jeanne Bell, 50, a member of the charity, said: "The Witcutts were fully aware of the risks. All our volunteers are briefed. And yes, we talk about the possibility of death." Dr Bell was speaking outside the couple's home in Old Manse Road, Wishaw, where their two children were being comforted by relatives. Allan Lees, a neighbour, said: "They were always willing to help, all you had to do was ask. And I know they planned to go back."

Sir David Steel, the Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman, who is a patron of Edinburgh Direct Aid, said Mrs Witcutt's death highlighted the risks faced by volunteers. "If you are going to take this kind of aid you run risks. It is impossible for every truck to be armoured-plated. I just hope that international pressure can be increased to let humanitarian aid through."

## Wise Men still divided on tax rises

By JANET BUSH  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Seven Wise Men advising the government on economic policy gave a warning yesterday that the recovery is slow and patchy and are still divided on whether Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, should raise taxes in the budget.

Their cautious assessment came on the day that the building industry predicted that another 100,000 construction jobs would be lost and the Institute of Directors reported a fall in confidence among business leaders.

The seven members of the Treasury's independent forecasting panel were more optimistic on growth and inflation than in February. President Clinton flew into Tokyo for the summit of the seven industrialised nations today with the question of aid for Russia still unresolved.

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Lesson of recession, page 27

## Gooch gives England new heart

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

GRAHAM Gooch made the most important century of his Test career yesterday and brought back a spark of hope to England's demoralised cricketers.

The team, two Tests down against Australia, go into the final day of the third at Nottingham with a chance of winning after the captain's 19th Test century.

When Gooch resumed his innings yesterday, England, with six wickets in hand, were only 70 runs ahead. They ended their best day of the series with a lead of 310, having lost only two wickets. Keith Fletcher, the manager, said last night that they would try to bowl the Australians out in five of the six hours which remain.

Gooch had indicated that another defeat against Australia would force his hand. He passed 8,000 Test runs during his innings of 120 and now has 8,017, within striking distance of Geoff Boycott (8,114) and David Gower (8,231).

"He used to forget our wedding anniversary. I never thought he'd forget my name."

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Mentally ill man held over bat attack

A 25-year-old unemployed man with a history of mental illness is being questioned by police about a baseball bat attack on a woman in the car park of a supermarket in south London last Friday (Sewart Tendler writes).

The man was arrested at his home in Wembley, northwest London, and is understood to have been released from a mental hospital. He was held as the condition of Dorrie Thompson, 46, improved and she came out of a coma. The suspect will also be questioned about an attack last week in which a woman was threatened by a man with a baseball bat at a supermarket car park in Sheen, southwest London.

## Legal plea on smacking

A childminder who refused to accept an order not to smack children in her care has asked magistrates to overturn a council's decision to remove her from its registered list. Anne Davis claims that the move by Sutton council in southwest London is depriving parents of the right to choose how their children are brought up.

## Prisoner killed himself

A prisoner accused of murder hanged himself two days after a probation officer gave him a leaflet on how to cope with a life sentence instead of allowing him to telephone home, an inquest at Winchester was told yesterday. The jury returned an open verdict on David Mangan, 27, of Shanklin, Isle of Wight. His family plans to sue the Home Office.

## BBC executive moves

James Moir, who brought Russ Abbot, Rory Bremner, Jasper Carrott and Noel Edmonds to BBC television, is to leave his post as head of BBC light entertainment to become deputy director of corporate affairs. His departure follows speculation over the future of a number of programmes, including *Jim'll Fix It* and *Top of the Pops*.

## Actor wins libel cash

Arnold Schwarzenegger, right, accepted substantial undisclosed libel damages over a story in the *News of the World* alleging that the film actor held fervent Nazi and anti-Semitic views. The High Court in London was told that the opposite was true and that Austrian-born Schwarzenegger, tough-guy hero of films such as *Conan the Barbarian*, was an active supporter of Jewish charities.



## Woman raped at Henley

A woman aged 20 was raped on the final day of the Henley regatta, just yards away from the rowing enclosure as crews were packing up. Detectives said she was attacked as she took a short cut across a field on Sunday night. Police were alerted within minutes and closed all main roads out of Henley. A man aged 21 was last night being questioned.

## Coach crash settlement

Survivors of a coach crash on a French motorway, in which 11 people died, have reached a settlement in their High Court action for compensation. Their claims, which will be assessed separately at county courts throughout the country, total £5 million. Fifty-seven people, mostly from the Midlands, were hurt in the crash in June 1990.

## Salmonella outbreak

At least 23 people are suffering from salmonella after having eaten food prepared in the kitchen of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester. A spokesman said yesterday about half of the victims were still in the hospital but were in a stable condition. The outbreak began last week when six people were confirmed as having the complaint.

## Britain's own worst enemies left sitting on defence

Yesterday, government and opposition unveiled rival plans. Each outlined its own proposals for a war machine to defend Britain into the next millennium.

The two outlines were very different in concept. Labour plans to approach future world conflicts armed with a comprehensive range of reviews. Yesterday their spokesman, Dr David Clark, described just a few of the sophisticated and deadly reviews his party hopes to deploy.

The Tories are arming themselves with "about". Yesterday, defence secretary Malcolm Rifkind hinted at some of the abouts with which Britain's arsenal will be but-

tered. Almost every consignment of new weaponry comes equipped with an about or two. These are designed to confuse the enemy.

Unfortunately they also confused Sir Nicholas Fairbairn (C, Perth & Kinross), who has returned after an illness, and was cheered loudly. What he asked, was the purpose of these abouts? Mr Rifkind, said Fairbairn, had promised that Britain's surface fleet will be setting sail "with a force of about 35 destroyers and frigates". Sir Nicholas understood the purpose of the frigates and destroyers, but what was the function of the about? Did it (as he believed) have a capability for varying the size of the fleet by as many as 15 ships —



MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

between 30 and 45? How in practice did the ministry of defence intend to use this about?

But of course Mr Rifkind was not saying. Half the value of such weaponry lies in the element of surprise. As Rifkind explained, the enemy was no longer the reliable monolith of communism: "that certainty has vanished, to be replaced by a broad spectrum of risk and uncertainty". One immediately saw his point. If Russians were the enemy then of course

weapons like bombs and tanks would be what Britain needed. But now that the enemy was a broad spectrum of risk and uncertainty, a whole thesaurus full of abouts, maybes and quite possibly will have to be aimed in every direction at once. Yesterday Mr Rifkind made a start, "to provide," he said, "what such a fluid setting demands". This was not Labour's way. They placed their trust in an old but trusty weapon, manufactured right here in Britain, relatively inexpensive, and

available in unlimited quantities: the review.

Reviews come in all shapes and sizes, and Dr Clark was calling for a whole range. At the top, he wanted "a full review". This we took to be a conventional review, but it emerged that Labour also wants a nuclear review — two, in fact both strategic and battlefield. The British helicopter commitment needed a review, and submarines deployment was also "desperately short" of a review.

At the bottom of the range, a comprehensive review was urgently needed to take care of defence workers whose jobs might be targeted by some of

Labour's other reviews. Clark urged Rifkind to order one immediately.

As the defence secretary and his Labour shadow did battle across the floor, Mr Rifkind letting fly from his large stock of abouts and Dr Clark replying with a few well-aimed reviews, the impression grew that each of Britain's main political parties has developed a highly appropriate range of weaponry for dealing with the other. Just how fearsome this arsenal looks to foreigners, however, is doubtful. Let us hope our attacker proves to be not the hum, the dago or Johnny Frenchman, but a broad spectrum of risk and uncertainty. For this we are well equipped.

## Lords defeat government over sale of British Rail

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE government suffered an embarrassing setback to its rail privatisation plans last night when it was decisively defeated in the Lords over the key issue of British Rail's right to bid for rail franchises.

About ten Tory peers defied the government whip to help Labour, Liberal Democrat and cross-bench peers defeat the government by 150 votes to 122, a majority of 38 on an amendment proposed by Lord Peyton of Yeovil, a former Tory transport minister.

The amendment, which was also backed by Lord Marsh, a former Labour transport minister, would allow British Rail to bid for any of the rail services being privatised in competition with private sector operators.

The government has known about the amendment for several days and appears to have been the victim of poor whipping of its supporters in the upper house. The unexpected outcome of the vote, which has delighted Labour transport spokesmen in both houses, is unlikely to be critical to the government's plans, but underlines the degree of opposition to the proposals.

The government has argued that British Rail will effectively be in competition with private sector bidders because it will retain services for which there is no competitive bid. It refused to make any concessions on this point in the Commons and is likely to seek to overturn the Lords defeat at the first available opportunity.

Opponents of the bill have pointed out that in countries where rail privatisation has taken place, such as Sweden,

the government railway operator has won many of the tenders for services.

Brian Wilson, a Labour transport spokesman, said he believed the government would find it difficult to reverse the defeat in the Commons. "This is absolutely wonderful. It is a crucial blow to the whole madcap scheme," he said.

"All of our campaigning over the next few weeks will be aimed at ensuring that Tory MPs will not dare reverse this vote," he added.

Nick Harvey, the Liberal Democrat transport spokesman, said: "This is a victory for common sense against short-sighted stupidity."

The vote has left the committee stage of the bill in some disarray with some peers calling for it to be temporarily abandoned while the implications of the defeat are considered by the government. But Lord Calthorpe, a transport minister of state, dismissed the suggestion as "ridiculous" and said that the line-by-line consideration of the bill would continue.

During yesterday's debate in the upper house, Lord Calthorpe had insisted that the issue of BR being allowed to bid for franchises went to "the heart" of the government's policy. He dismissed the amendment as a "wrecking proposal" that was "profoundly undesirable and unnecessary" and undermined the whole franchising process.

However, Lord Clinton-Davis, the Labour transport spokesman in the Lords, said the defeat was "an astounding rebuff to the government".



Horse trading: Stan Acton from Norfolk with a selection of model heads for sale at a gypsy horse fair at Bradfield Combust, Suffolk. Extra police have been drafted in, but organisers say the fair is not for New Age travellers

## NUS challenges church cults

BY IAN MURRAY

THE National Union of Students is mounting a campaign against the use of university facilities by cults and religious sects, with the fast-growing London Church of Christ as its first target.

The University of Keele, Staffordshire, has let out its campus next week for the annual conference of the London Church of Christ, which mounts aggressive campaigns to recruit students.

The church, which started recruiting in Britain ten years ago, now has around 2,000 members with branches in Birmingham, Manchester and other cities. It is under investigation by the Charity

Commissioners about how it spends the £12 million it raises, largely by charging a tithe to its followers.

Kevin Sexton, the NUS vice-president responsible for welfare, said yesterday: "We want to stop them being allowed to use facilities at universities. We are advising student unions on all campuses about the potential problems."

"These people can be quite difficult for students to cope with if they are feeling insecure and we need to give them help. We support specific actions to prevent sects using student facilities and plan to organise lobbies and to leaflet any conferences which do

book into a university."

Keele University took on the London Church of Christ booking from Liverpool University, which has been the venue for the sect's past three conferences but which is too small to accommodate the 1,000 delegates expected this year.

"This is just one of many conferences we shall be hosting during the holiday period when the students are not even here," a university spokesman said last night.

"The students have already complained about it, but there is nothing we can do because we have a contract and cannot just opt out."

## Nadir made six visits to Downing Street

BY A STAFF REPORTER

ASIL Nadir attended six functions at 10 Downing Street between 1984 and 1989, the prime minister disclosed last night.

John Major said in a Commons written reply to Labour's Tony Banks (Newham NW) that Mr Nadir attended a dinner and a reception for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. He also attended a reception for the Harold Macmillan Trust, a lunch for the president of Turkey and two lunches for industrialists, all while Margaret Thatcher was in office.

Mr Major was also pressed by Mr Banks on rules governing the use of No 10 for party fund-raising events. He replied: "Under this and previous administrations, a variety of functions have been held at 10 Downing Street where the costs have been met by political parties."

"The purpose of such functions is not a matter for the government but I can confirm

that, since November 1990, there have been no functions at 10 Downing Street at which funds have been raised for political parties or for which tickets have been sold for the benefit of political parties."

Mr Major added: "Ministers under this and previous administrations have been allowed — at their own or party expense — to host non-official or party receptions or functions in Downing Street." Catering, staff and other expenses had to be met by the organisers of the event.

Meanwhile, a farcical element has been introduced into Mr Nadir's campaign to clear his name.

He recently boasted to Rauf Denktaş, president of the self-styled Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus that he had sufficient material to unseat the British government and claimed to Elizabeth Forsyth, his former private investment adviser, that he knew "exactly why Michael Heseltine had his heart attack".

## Women could be bishops

Continued from page 1

on whether it is "expedient". If the legislation is agreed by the committee, as expected, it will be debated by both Houses of Parliament in the autumn. The first women could be ordained as priest by Easter.

Dr Carey said the Church of England relied on experience. One of the reasons women bishops had not been included in the legislation already was that the church lacked experience of women priests.

He conceded: "It is illogical to separate the presbyterate from the episcopate. But we have chosen to do it that way."

Dr Carey faced vigorous questioning from opponents of the legislation, including John Gummer, the environment secretary, and Patrick Cormack, the Tory MP for Staffordshire South. Mr Gummer said: "Those of us who cannot accept the ordination of women cannot do so because this is something which the church has specifically not

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Diary, page 18

سكول من راييل



Elderly sisters vanish to continue life on the run

# Irish police forced to let wanted widows go free

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

TWO elderly English widows whose bizarre disappearance sparked a nationwide police hunt over a year ago were on the run again last night after being found safe and well in a rented bungalow in a remote village in the west of Ireland.

Detectives are afraid the sisters, Joan Payne, 73, and Winifred Bristow, 75, have staged another flight with a pair of fraudsters.

Police named their companions as their nephew John Horrod, 50, and his girl friend Angela Dodge, 51, who inexplicably persuaded them to abandon their comfortable lives in East Grinstead, West Sussex, where their greatest passions were gardening and a game of cribbage, for a

■ A sighting in Ireland by police has failed to halt the year-long grand adventure of two quiet widows from East Grinstead

grand adventure in May last year.

A trail of unpaid hotel bills, forged cheques and false bank accounts followed them from Dorset to Fort William as they enjoyed a leisurely tour of the country with their nephew, Ms Dodge, her 10-year-old daughter and the family golden retriever, Sandy.

Their life of Riley ended briefly yesterday when a Garda officer traced the two old ladies and Ms Dodge — but not Mr Horrod — after a tip-off from a newspaper near Swinford in co. Mayo. How-

ever, because none of them had committed any offence in Ireland, the officer was unable to detain them and they roared off in an old car towards Dublin with no explanation of their intentions or why they disappeared in the first place.

Det Con Barry Woodley, of Hampshire police, who has been leading the enquiry, said: "They were flushed out by someone in a newspaper shop in the back of beyond in cowpat country and the Garda trudged round and confronted them. But they must have got wind because they already had their car loaded up. We tried to get the police to hold the girl so the social services could get her taken to a place of safety. But the Garda had no power to detain them and they roared off."

He added: "Now they are on the move again there is no point in seeking extradition. I can't believe they will attempt to board a ferry for England."

"We do not seek to interview the old ladies as such. We want to question the other two. In a sense, now we have established the two women are safe and well, the job is half-over."

Mrs Payne and Mrs Bristow left their home in

West Hill, East Grinstead, on May 8, 1992, for a holiday with their nephew after he stayed with them. The house has since been repossessed.

On June 3, a bank account was opened in Lymington, Hampshire, in the name of A. Dodds and a week later a false cheque for £2,000 was cashed at a bank in Christchurch, Dorset. The same month, another account was opened in the name of Anne Roberts and a car bought for £5,500 from a garage in Brockenhurst, Hampshire, with a worthless cheque signed by A. Dodds. Then a sister and friends of the elderly pair staked out a post office in Milford on Sea, Dorset, where Mrs Bristow collected her pension. But she avoided them and fled.

Pensioners, travellers' cheques and cheques were subsequently cashed, sometimes in false names across Britain or used to pay bills.

Daphne Taylor, a friend of the couple who has spent over a year trying to trace them, said last night: "I hope the Irish police discover that everyone in the area has been left with money owed to them. That will teach the Garda a lesson for not holding them while enquiries were made."

"They will eventually come to their senses after I have got hold of them and knocked their heads together. I love them and I don't like to see old people made fools of."



Missing sisters: Joan Payne, left, and Winifred Bristow, whose chief excitement was once a game of cribbage



A new line: Victoria Heath, Nan Parry and Abigail Lee of Moreton Hall School, near Oswestry, Shropshire, which has taken over the running of a station in the village of Gobowen. The school has obtained a lease from BR

## McVicar's son flees from police custody

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE SON of the former armed robber John McVicar was on the run last night after giving police the slip before a court appearance.

Russell Grant escaped as officers were taking him from a custody room to a waiting van at Kilburn police station in north London at 7.45am.

The 28-year-old, who describes himself as an unemployed writer, was due to face armed robbery charges at Marylebone Magistrates' Court. He also faced charges of having unlawful sexual intercourse with a 14-year-old girl and abduction.

Detectives chased him as he made off on foot but he lost them by running onto railway tracks near Kilburn Tube station.

Police said that Mr Grant was dangerous and warned the public not to approach him. He is described as 5ft 10in tall with a muscular build, short brown hair and blue or green eyes. He was last seen wearing beige jeans, a green T-shirt and white training shoes.

Scotland Yard said that it would be investigating the escape. It said: "This man is facing armed robbery charges and is dangerous. If anyone has information about where he could be hiding they should contact police."

John McVicar, Mr Grant's father, was made famous by a film, starring Roger Daltrey, about his life of crime. McVicar is now a writer.

## Rapist was ex-mental patient

A SCHIZOPHRENIC released back into the community after spells in psychiatric units raped three women after breaking into their ground-floor flats at night, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Derry McBean, 30, powerfully-built and more than 6ft, threatened to cut out one of his victim's eyes if she screamed, the court was told. He was remanded to a secure unit for further medical reports after the court was told of his medical history.

McBean, of New Cross, southeast London, was unanimously convicted of the three rapes between June 1989 and November 1990. Judge Hawkins ordered that two other charges, alleging that McBean raped women in the same area in southeast London in the same period, remain on file. McBean had denied all the charges.

Anthony Arlidge QC, for the defence, said that McBean had convictions for burglary, and had received treatment under the Mental Health Act. According to a recent report from Dr Janet Parrott, "he is currently suffering from schizophrenia".

McBean had raped three times in June 1989 and in July and November 1990, and spent two short periods between 1988 and 1990 in psychiatric care. He was again made subject of a mental health act hospital order in March last year and released that May.

The Rights of Women Association, a lobby group, said afterwards that the government's community care programme was allowing dangerous men back into the community where they received no specialist treatment.

## Sams invented Dart killer, QC claims

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE kidnapper Michael Sams created a mystery killer of the Leeds teenager Julie Dart because he could not face the fact that he had murdered her himself, it was claimed in court yesterday.

Richard Wakeley QC, for the prosecution, asked Sams why he had lied whenever he was asked a question that might incriminate himself. "You could not face that you killed that girl, could you?" he asked. Sams replied: "I couldn't kill anybody."

It was Sams's third day in the witness box undergoing intense interrogation at Nottingham Crown Court, where he has consistently refused to identify the friend who, he claims, rented storage space in his Newark workshop.

Sams, 51, a tool repairer

from Sutton-on-Trent, has denied the kidnapping and murder of Miss Dart, 18, in Leeds in July 1991. He has admitted kidnapping Stephanie Slater, a Birmingham estate agent, in January 1992 — and demanding £175,000 from her employers.

In reply to questions from Mr Wakeley, Sams suggested that fibres from his clothing found under tape on ransom letters in the Dart case had been put there by his friend.

He accepted evidence that the sheet and rope used to bind Miss Dart's body were his. "It is obvious they were taken from the workshop by this friend of mine," he said.

Mr Wakeley: "The only explanation is that Julie Dart was killed in your workshop."

Sams: "Not by me." The trial continues today.

## School expels boy of six who punched girl

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A BOY aged six has been expelled from school because he is considered a danger to his fellow pupils.

The governors of Holton-le-Moor primary school near Caistor, Lincolnshire, decided that an indefinite exclusion was the only way to protect the other children, some of whom are four years older than Kirk Henson. The school has only 39 pupils and two teachers.

The last straw came when the boy punched a girl in the playground. But other incidents had included swearing at teachers, running out of school and fighting.

Karen Kenson, the boy's mother, has even called in the police to try to curb his violent behaviour. But yesterday she appealed to the school's governors to give him another chance. "His behaviour has got worse since he has been home because he has not got anything to occupy his mind. He used to like school but now he is bored. He is a bit of a terror — but kids are kids."

A Lincolnshire education spokesman said it was rare to exclude such a young child, but small schools could take only a limited amount of disruption.

## Test match funsters strike a blow against BBC guide

ONLY time will tell whether the absence of crucial blows on the BBC yesterday was sparked off by publication of the corporation's guide to language and the avoidance of clichés. Top-level BBC chiefs are clearly poised at this moment in time to swoop on London's Broadcasting House in a vital and quite unique slack language.

Any BBC announcer reading the above would have been guilty at least 13 times of transgressing the corporation's newly published guidelines to good English. A random dip into the airwaves yesterday found them commendably free of grammatical solecism. But not entirely. (The BBC permits short sentences beginning with *but* and *and*, because that is how people speak.)

A foreign correspondent on the *Today* programme on Radio 4 reported one warring faction in Africa "winning hand over fist". On *The*

Are BBC staff reaching the high standards set in their new English style guide, asks Alan Hamilton

World At One, James Naughtie tiptoed through the minefield of defence cuts, Bosnia and the economy without once describing any of those delicate situations as the banned "crucial" or "a blow". There were, instead, "sharp disagreements" over cutting the defence budget, the Iraqi refusal to allow UN cameras at its rocket bases was "unacceptable" and a prediction of poor economic growth was "pessimistic".

It is one thing to instruct presenters in good English, but quite another to get interviewees to comply. John Mortimer earned full marks for cliché avoidance, and

also perhaps for hyperbole, when he described the possibility of removing the right to trial by jury for certain offences, not as crucial, but as mattering more than anything else in the world.

The most brazen flaunting of the style book was by the *Test Match Special* commentary team on Radio 3 and 5. The book states emphatically: "Our style is not to use the present tense for things that have already happened." The team speak constantly in the present tense, as in: "Warne bowls to Gooch; Gooch hits it to the boundary." But they may be excused, as they describe events as they happen.

And even when they say, as they did just before lunch, "We are still waiting for Johnners to try on the false moustache", they speak true. They were still waiting as the players broke for lunch. Sigh of relief from Johnners, hopes dashed for others. Whoops: two clichés.

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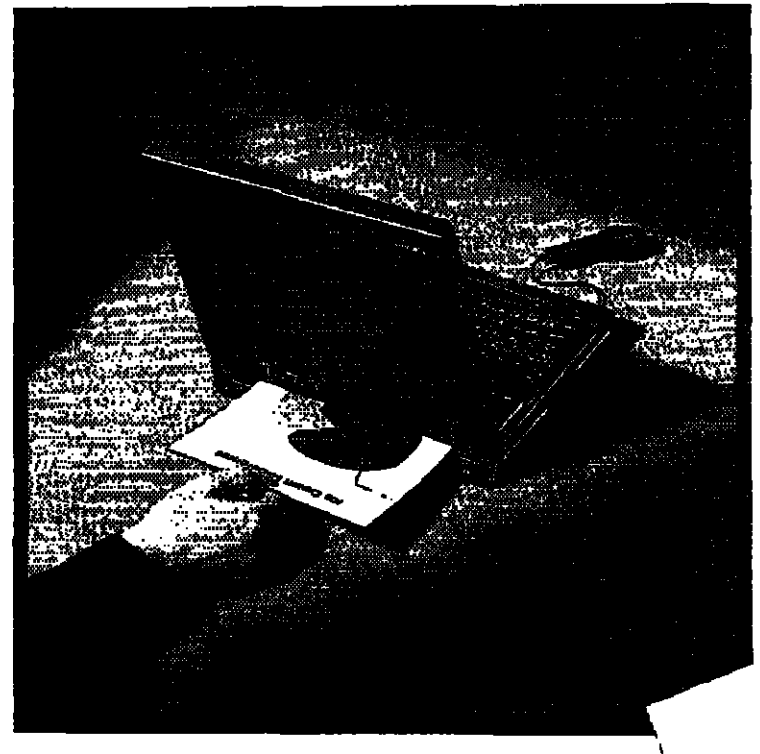
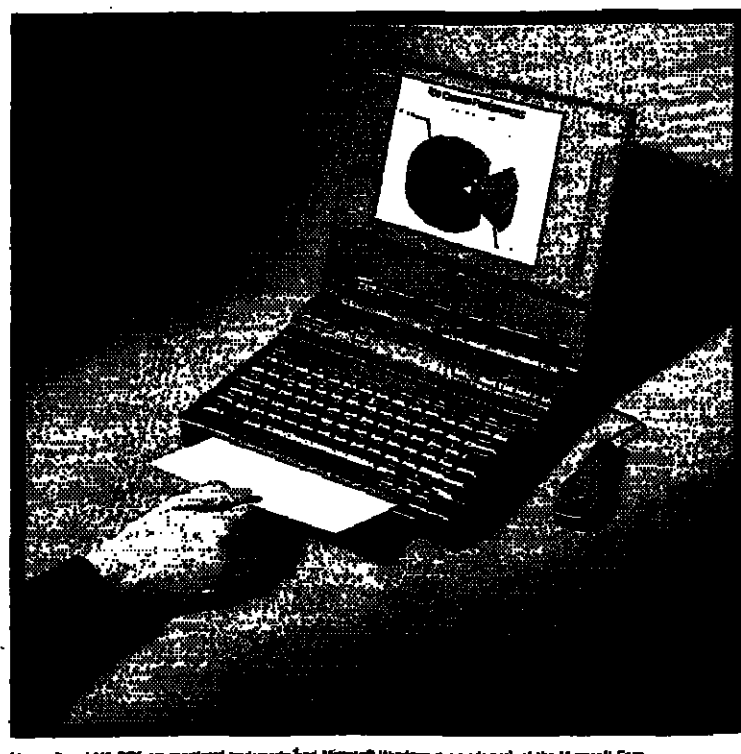
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## Judge gives addict peer last chance to kick heroin habit

By RICHARD DUCE

THE Marquess of Bristol was yesterday given a final chance to end his addiction to drugs or go to prison.

Lord Bristol, 33, described by his barrister as a "sad, emotionally deprived" figure, was cleared at Sharnbrook Crown Court, east London, of supplying cocaine and heroin to his friends. He had admitted possessing the drugs.

Judge Stable QC said he would immediately jail Lord Bristol for ten months if he "threw in the towel" in his fight against drugs.

Sentence was deferred until December 6 while Lord Bristol, said to have daily taken "enormous quantities" of hard drugs, undergoes treatment for his dependence at a London clinic.

"I shall not be looking for miracles but to see that you have done your level best to stick to the advice your doctors have given and to follow their regime... to make real progress to rid yourself of this habit that has done so much damage. You have a clear choice," the judge said.

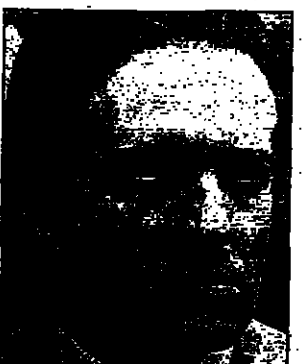
The judge ruled that the jury should formally clear Lord Bristol of supplying drugs after he determined that one of the main prosecution witnesses was "sickeningly hypocritical". However, Judge Stable questioned Lord Bristol's choice of a right to silence when he ordered that his trial

costs should be borne from public funds, an order that "went against the grain".

On the eve of today's Royal Commission report on criminal justice, the judge said: "As the law stands I'm obliged to give his costs, but I make no secret of the fact that a man who makes no explanation but chooses to stand on his right of silence and says nothing ought not to have the taxpayer pay his costs."

Lord Bristol, of Ickworth House near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, had denied two counts of supplying cocaine and a similar charge involving heroin between September 1990 and October 1991. He admitted two possession charges.

George Carman QC, for the defence, had argued that



Lord Bristol cleared of supplying hard drugs

Bruce Smith, a prosecution witness and one of Lord Bristol's former business partners, was an accomplice and that the case should be withdrawn. The judge said Mr Smith's evidence contained a "large number of inconsistencies and contradictions". Part of his evidence had been completely contradicted by that of an experienced police officer. Mr Smith had told the jury how he threatened Lord Bristol with the "drug card", warning him that he would tell police about his drug activities if the marquess went ahead with a £134,000 court action against him, the judge said.

Although Lord Bristol was "obviously vulnerable" to threats of that sort, he continued with the litigation — and Mr Smith informed on his former friend. Mr Smith had said it was his public duty to go to the police — something the judge regarded as sickening hypocrisy from a man who knew of Lord Bristol's drug addiction for several years but had done nothing about it.

The court was told that Lord Bristol, who has been receiving in-patient treatment for his addiction at a London clinic for the past two weeks, became a registered addict three days before police raided his living quarters in the 40-room east wing of Ickworth House in October 1991.

## Woman treated as slave at takeaway

By A STAFF REPORTER

A WOMAN was treated as a slave in a Chinese takeaway by her mother-in-law when she failed to provide an heir, a court was told.

For two years, Fung Yee Wong's only sight of the outside world was when she was taken into the back yard to be punished. When the 26-year-old woman finally escaped, she weighed just six stone and had more than 70 wounds on her face and body.

Her mother-in-law, Ying Tai Lee Yau, 52, of Peterlee, co. Durham, has admitted one charge of assault causing actual bodily harm at Teesside Crown Court. Her brother-in-law Man Fong Yau, 22, has admitted two charges.

Beatrice Bolton, for the prosecution, said that after Ms Fung's arranged marriage she was expected to clean the takeaway and chop vegetables. There were language problems and her mother-in-law felt she worked too slowly. Her irritation grew when Ms Fung had not produced a child after two years.

Miss Fung told police she was tied up in the yard and whipped with a stick and metal tipped hosepipe as well as being punched, slapped and nipped on the lips, face and body until she bled.

The mother-in-law told police that Ms Fung was punished because she was slow and did not do what she was told. Sentence was adjourned for the preparation of reports.



Captive audience: Gillian Shephard in a mechanical loader at the Royal Show

## Minister rejects organic appeal

GILLIAN Shephard, the agriculture minister, has turned down an appeal by the main farmers' organisation for more government aid for the "muck and magic" of organic farming (Michael Hornsby writes).

The National Farmers' Union, which has more than 100,000 members, joined forces for the first time with British Organic Farmers,

which has fewer than 1,000, to make the appeal on the opening day of the annual Royal Show at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire.

Mrs Shephard, while promising "to put the environment at the heart of agricultural policy", said she considered the £1 million earmarked for organic farming later this year to be "a generous slice of available resources".

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Pensioner beaten up by conmen

An elderly man is recovering in hospital after being badly beaten in his home by two confidence tricksters who escaped with his savings.

Arthur Fletcher, 84, had his nose, chin and cheekbone broken. The men, who wore orange overalls, got into his flat in the Burmantofts area of Leeds by posing as electricity engineers and beat him until he said where he kept his valuables.

### Stony ground

Archaeological experts will discuss the future of Stonehenge at a Council of Europe seminar at the Society of Antiquaries in London today as part of a public consultation by English Heritage and the National Trust.

### Top of the pops

A bulbous soft drinks bottle dug up by a building inspector at Thorne, South Yorkshire, has been auctioned for £2,000. The private buyer has donated it to the National Bottle Museum in Barnsley.

### Making news

Burglars caused £50,000 of damage at The Bucks Herald newspaper offices in Aylesbury, smashing every computer screen.

### Pollution fine

British Aerospace has been fined £5,000 for polluting a tributary of the Ribble in Lancashire with 200 gallons of oil.

## Sotheby's puts a £200,000 estimate on early calculator

By JOHN SHAW

A CALCULATOR similar to one sold for £7.7 million at Christie's is being auctioned by Sotheby's with a pre-sale estimate of £150,000 to £200,000.

Both calculators were made by Johann Christoph Schuster, a 19th-century German craftsman. The Sotheby's model comes from a private collection in Eastern Europe.

Jon Baddeley, of Sotheby's, said the machine was in very good condition. He did not think that the scientific instruments market would be affected by the £7.7 million Schuster controversy. That machine had a top estimate of £20,000.

He said: "It still remains an important instrument of its type and if there are only six or seven left in the world and you are a collector of such things then I think £150,000 isn't over the top; £7.7 million is."

Edgar Mannheim, a dealer from Zurich, made the clinching £7.7 million bid

against a determined under-bidder at Christie's on May 19. He has promised to name a buyer on Friday.

Meanwhile, Christie's gave its own account of a story that could become both messy and embarrassing: if its machine does not find Mr Mannheim a wealthy buyer by the weekend, it is new and past the normal 35-day period given for payment and the firm is still awaiting a cheque for a total of £7,701,500.

Christie's said that before the sale Mr Mannheim, "a dealer with whom we have had a good business relationship as a buyer and seller for many years", and a respected German institution were among clients expressing an interest in bidding for the calculator.

The firm said that immediately afterwards it spoke to the dealer "and obtained reassurances from him that payment would be made

promptly. "Christie's representatives have been in continual contact with Mr Mannheim since the sale and have visited him at his office."

"Despite his continued optimism that he would be able to pay shortly, as each week has passed we have become increasingly concerned on behalf of the vendor."

"Christie's is acting as agent for the vendor and is keeping him fully informed. We are also taking instructions from him on what steps he wishes us to take with the purchaser."

The unnamed vendor lives in Melbourne, Australia. The machine belonged to an ancestor who once worked as an astronomer and mathematician for a 19th-century Indian prince.

The Deutsches Museum in Munich, which has two Schuster machines, denied that Mr Mannheim had bought the machine at Christie's on its behalf.

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\* Net annual income after deduction of tax at the current basic rate of 25%. Figures correct as of 1st July 1993, but are subject to variation.

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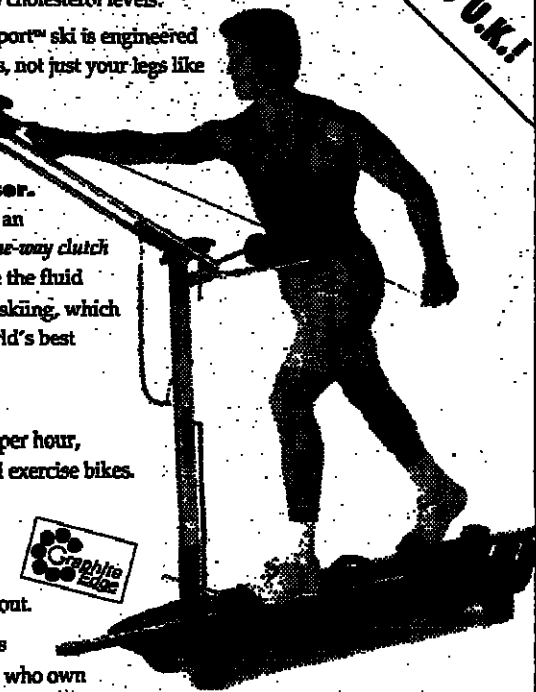
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## White paper: Rifkind aims to prune £1bn from defence budget

## Adjustments mean deeper cuts in all but name

THE government's Options for Change defence review, which cut the armed services by 25 per cent, has been re-examined and "readjusted" in the white paper published yesterday, after a further study of Britain's security roles.

The Options for Change programme was described as a measured response to the end of the Cold War. "It was inherently cautious and in line with reductions planned by allies," the white paper said.

However, in a foreword to the paper, Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, says: "The changes over the last 12 months led me to conclude that a number of further adjustments... are now appropriate."

They include reductions in anti-submarine warfare capability and the number of aircraft provided for the defence of the United Kingdom.

This will mean the loss of another Tornado F3 squadron, bringing the total number of air defence squadrons down to six.

The unit earmarked for elimination is 23 Squadron, normally based at Leeming, North Yorkshire.

However, half the squadron is currently at Gioia del Colle, involved in enforcing the no-fly zone over Bosnia Herzegovina. The squadron will be disbanded in April of next year.

From 1994, a force of 100 Tornado F3s — down from the 122 planned under Options for Change — will be available for defending the United Kingdom's air space and meeting the commitments to Nato's reaction forces.

The latest assessment of Britain's security needs was based on three defence roles: protection of the United Kingdom and dependent territories, defence of the UK against a major external threat, and Britain's wider security interests. Mr Rifkind is able to make cuts to please the Treasury because he has the luxury of planning a defence programme without having an identifiable enemy.

The white paper said that a "major external threat", one of Cold War dimensions, was even more unlikely to re-emerge in the foreseeable future than seemed to be the case in 1991.

"However, there are other areas where risks and com-

■ Michael Evans analyses the implications of the defence white paper published yesterday

mitments have increased and these must be reflected in our planned force structures and capabilities," the white paper said. The government recognised that there would be pressure on Britain to play a part in international peace-keeping missions. The old distinction between "in and out of area" was no longer relevant for defence planning.

"The criteria will be the depth of British and allied interests involved and the implications of the crisis for international peace and stability," the white paper said.

Outlining how resources were made available for each of the defence roles, the white paper said the cost of "defence role one" would be £9 billion in 1993-4 and £10.5 billion for defence role two.

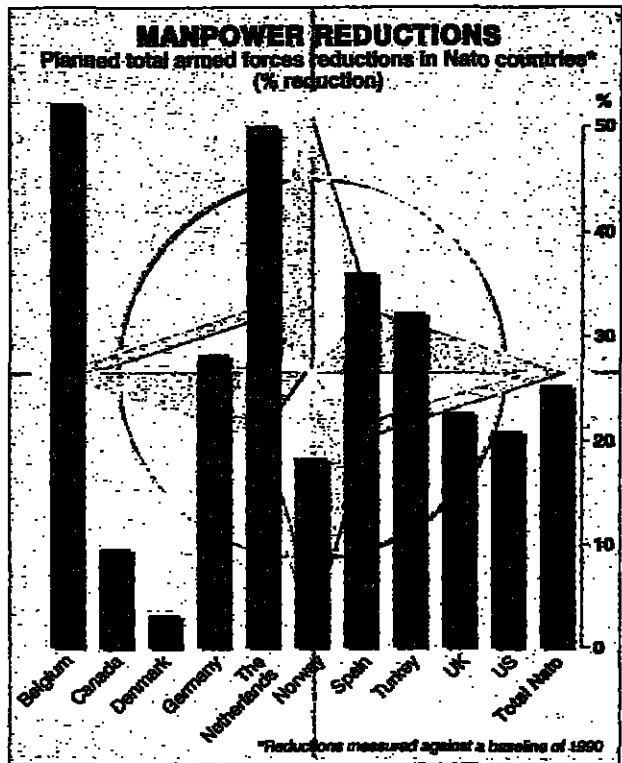
Detailing the force structures for each role, the white paper disclosed that the nuclear ballistic missile submarine deterrent required three destroyers and frigates as escorts, acting in an anti-submarine warfare role. For the security of the United Kingdom, two destroyers were earmarked for air defence.

The earmarking of warships is listed right down to the escorts required for the royal yacht, HM *Britannia*.

For defence role three, the planners have earmarked a divisional-sized force, capable of carrying out another Operation Granby, codename for Britain's military contribution to the Gulf war. For costing purposes, however, officials regard defence role three as a "free good" because the intervention forces already exist, fulfilling other military roles.

Senior officials said that the cuts announced in the white paper to fit the three defence roles had been agreed on the basis of a "professional judgment" by the service chiefs, although they said that the final decision had been a matter for the ministry.

Lawrence Freedman, page 18  
Leading article, page 19



## Service redundancy programmes will continue drive for savings

THE defence budget will be reduced by £570 million in the current financial year and by £480 million in 1994-5 to meet the new cuts demanded by the Treasury last autumn.

During this period, there are expected to be significant cash savings through the introduction of the new force structure and as a result of lower pay settlements and inflation than previously assumed. Defence spending will have dropped by about 12 per cent in real terms between 1990-1 and 1995-6, representing about 3.2 per cent of GDP. Britain's defence programme, however, remains one of the highest in Europe, on a par with France and Germany.

The current manpower plans are based on a total requirement by 1995 of around 240,000 personnel: 52,500 in the Royal Navy, 119,000 in the army and 70,000 in the RAF.

Beyond 1995, the manpower requirement would be kept under review, the white paper said. Where developments in technology meant that new weapon systems needed less manpower to operate or maintain, this would be reflected in the number of personnel.

The redundancy programmes would continue. Army redundancies in 1993-4

would be about 1,300 officers, of which around 630 would be compulsory, and 5,150 soldiers, all volunteers.

The third phase of navy cuts would involve 2,300 officers and ratings. The RAF has begun implementing its first

phase of redundancies, totalling 280 officers and 690 airmen, all of them voluntary. A second phase, to be completed by March 1995, will involve up to 2,200 personnel.

The white paper said that redundancies would be drawn primarily from personnel with more than 12 years' service, although the navy and army

had found it necessary to extend the programme to those who had served less than 12 years.

The Ministry of Defence set an efficiency target of 2.5 per cent for each year since 1988, although this was reduced to 1.5 per cent for 1991-2. The target was substantially exceeded, the white paper said.

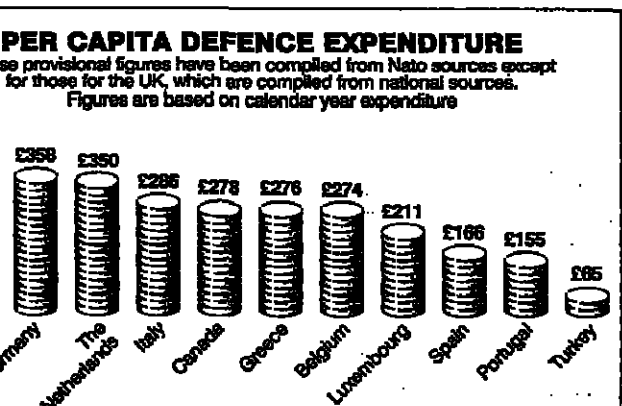
Market testing of goods and services, under which the cost of military support tasks are compared with private contractors, is also expected to bring considerable savings.

One aspect of the defence ministry's activities which have increased significantly is in defence exports. In 1992, Britain's defence contractors won equipment orders abroad worth over £5 billion. This represented 20 per cent of the world market in defence exports. "These are record figures and place the United Kingdom second only to the

United States as an equipment exporter," the white paper said. This year is expected to be as successful. In January, John Major announced Saudi Arabia had decided to order a further 48 Tornados. The Sultan of Oman is also buying the Challenger 2 tank.

The white paper said the government did not permit defence exports indiscriminately. The policy was to encourage the sale of British defence equipment overseas "as long as this is compatible with our political, strategic and security interests and does not conflict with our international obligations".

The defence ministry was co-operating fully with Lord Justice Scott's enquiry into exports of defence equipment and dual purpose goods to Iraq, the paper said. More than 20,000 pages of documentation had already been provided.



## Navy is biggest victim of cuts

THE Royal Navy is the biggest loser in the latest round of cuts, with further reductions in surface ships and submarines.

The white paper tries to balance the cuts with promises of orders for support helicopters for the RAF and confirmation that the navy will get its £170 million helicopter carrier and two amphibious support vessels.

The army escapes the cuts this time, although there is no reference in the white paper of an order for more Challenger 2s, the new tank which is proving a success in trials. However, officials indicated there would be an announcement soon to buy up to 200 more Challenger 2s. The order would mean cancelling the plan to upgrade the Challenger 1s.

Although the number of tank regiments is to remain at eight, the Options for Change figure, there are plans to reduce each regiment by a squadron. The white paper makes no reference to this change but details are expected to emerge soon. The army seems satisfied with this reduction provided they get a complete fleet of Challenger 2s which are more powerful and reliable than Challenger 1s.

The decision to sell or mothball the four Upholder class conventional submarines means that the

navy will lose a capability it has had since the early 1960s. The submarine fleet will now be just nuclear-powered boats.

Senior officials said that although £900 million had been spent on the four submarines, three of which are not yet in service, it would have cost a lot more to operate them. They said it was better to decide now to sell them than to keep them in service, running up the costs. There have been no offers to buy them.

Although the destroyer/frigate fleet is to be cut from 40 to 35, the white paper said by investing in the new Duke class Type 23 frigates and the EH101 Merlin helicopter, Britain would have the right mix of capabilities. Six Type 23s have been accepted into service; two more are planned this year; and five are on order.

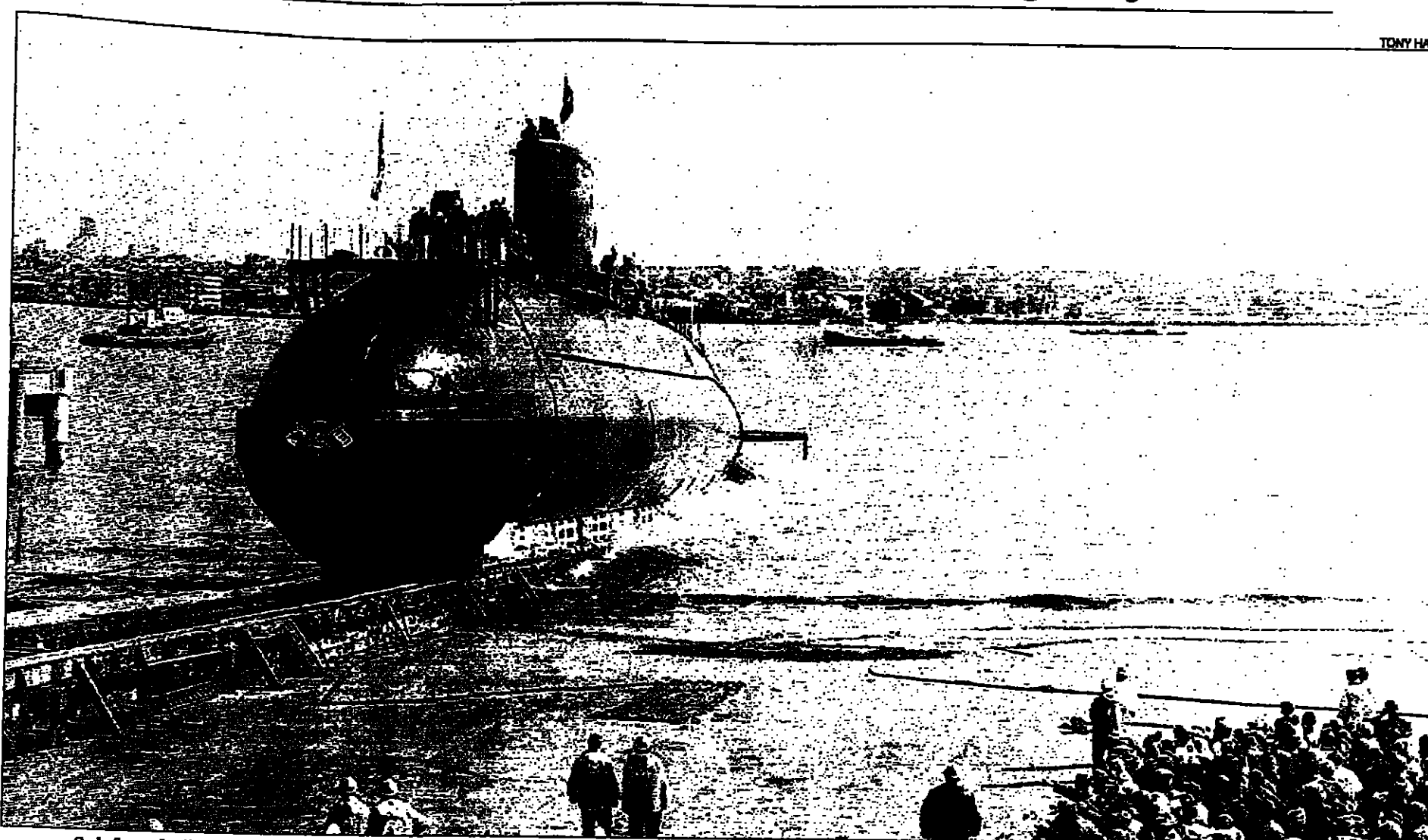
Minesweepers are to be reduced to 25 but the white paper said that with the purchase of more capable Sandown class vessels, it was possible to rely on a smaller fleet.

The army's equipment programme will include a new attack helicopter due in service by the end of the decade. Britain is to withdraw from the third phase of the multiple launch rocket system programme. This indirect fire anti-armour weapon will be provided by procuring an air-launched weapon for the RAF.

Ministers are still considering options for upgrading the Tornado GR1 aircraft to enhance their operational capability and let them operate into the next century. The £2 billion, four-nation Eurofighter 2000 project remained the "keystone" for the RAF's future capability, the white paper said. The RAF is hoping to buy 250 to replace Jaguars and Phantoms.



## amid protests from backbenchers and warnings of job losses



Sub for sale: HMS Unicorn, launched last year at the Cammell Laird yard in Birkenhead, is one of four Upholder class boats that will be sold off or leased

## Labour joins Tory critics of overstretched forces

By ROBERT MORGAN  
POLITICAL STAFF

TORY backbenchers yesterday made clear that they will tolerate no further defence cuts. Responding in the House of Commons to Malcolm Rifkind's statement on the defence white paper, several spokes of the "overstretch" of present forces.

Labour MPs too were highly critical. Their defence spokesman, Dr David Clark, said: "In reality, there is increasing demands on our armed forces but with fewer tanks, fewer ships and fewer men and women. Nothing has changed. Overstretch will go on."

But the defence secretary told them that the end of the threat from the Soviet Union "makes it sensible for us" to make some reductions in the levels of relevant forces which were particularly aimed at countering the Soviet threat.

There was "clear operational justification" for reductions, Mr Rifkind told MPs. "It is my view, and that of the chiefs of staff, that we have made the right choices to enable us to face up to the challenges which confront us," he said.

Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Conservative chairman of the defence select committee, welcomed the new way in which the size and structure of the forces are linked to the commitments that the government had internationally and for the defence of this country.

However, he went on: "It is the view of the defence select committee that in some aspects the forces are overstretched at the present level of commitment and we are looking for improvements to be made." He hoped that in future commitments would not overstretch resources, but as he saw no prospect of an early cut in commitments "no further cuts can be made by the Treasury".

Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, chairman of the Conservative defence committee, said that the forces were fully stretched and he did not want the defence secretary announcing further cuts next year.

### Despite the end of the Cold War, the latest round of cuts will leave the armed forces overstretched, MPs claim

Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Manchester, Davyhulme, said that Mr Rifkind's announcement was "part of a relentless run-down" of the armed forces from what was a low base. It was a "masterful regret" that there was no reprieve for any of the overstretched infantry battalions, Mr Churchill said. He was also highly critical of reductions in the front-line strength of the Royal Air Force and the cut in frigates and destroyers from 50 a decade ago to 35.

Michael Colvin, Conservative MP for Romsey and Waterside, said that the defence secretary, as a good lawyer, had made the best of a bad brief that seemed to be driven by Treasury and not

defence considerations. The statement, he complained, did not answer the questions about support helicopters and heavy air transport.

If Britain was to fulfil its obligations to the United Nations in terms of peace-keeping and peace-making, men and equipment had to be moved as quickly as possible.

Bruce George, Labour MP for Walsall South, said that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, should have made the statement "because his fingerprints are all over this document".

Archie Hamilton, who stepped down recently as armed forces minister, said that Britain's commitments and forces were "pretty finely balanced". That should make

Mr Rifkind "very reluctant indeed" to take on new commitments. He urged the defence secretary to "constantly review where we might lose commitments, including Northern Ireland".

Mr Rifkind said that no forces were dedicated to unexpected contingencies or crises. "All our forces that might be used in a crisis, are used in peacetime for other roles."

Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrats' defence spokesman, said there was no clear overall political judgement from the government "as to what the military role of the United Kingdom should be as a middle-ranking power". Security was most likely to be maintained "through a far greater degree of military and political integration in Nato and the EC as part of the integrated defence policy which the Maastricht Treaty clearly contemplated".

Mr Rifkind retorted: "Where have you been for the last 40 years? UK defence forces could hardly be more integrated in Nato than they are at the present time."

Peter Viggers, Conservative MP for Gosport, said: "The statement will come as a bitter disappointment to those journalists who wrote their stories about defence cuts before they knew the facts — because there are no cuts in resources in this statement."

He called for sufficient defences for Britain to defend her trading interests, bearing in mind that "95 per cent of our trade travels by sea".

Mr Rifkind replied: "The Royal Navy will remain, after the United States, perhaps the most effective naval force in the world. It is a very powerful force, not only in terms of ships and assets, but also in terms of the naval skills and experience of those who man them."

Ian Taylor, Tory MP for Esher, urged Mr Rifkind to look closely at foreign policy objectives and added: "We need to know that we have the resources available to us to meet those foreign policy commitments as and when they arise."

## When Britain's troops coloured world map red

By IAN MURRAY

The Pax Britannica was drawing to a close and the thin red line of heroes which enforced it was in some ways a thing of the past when the defence estimates for 1993 were drawn up.

The loss of Gordon at Khartoum in 1885 had turned the Liberal government against imperialism in the Sudan or imperial policing anywhere. The old habits of imperialism were deep rooted and change was slow, but on the way. Financial pressure also meant that locally recruited troops were more in vogue to man the frontiers of empire.

Increasingly moves were made to copy the Indian army system and try to use British-led and trained local troops

to keep the peace or extend the boundaries of empire. Australian troops had just been in action in Somalia, the first use of colonial troops to fight Britain's battles in this way.

The budget for the regular army of 24,500 men was fixed in 1893 at £20,750,651. The navy was awarded £14,240,000 to pay 76,700 men aboard 193 ships, including 35 battleships, 18 armoured cruisers and 32 torpedo gun boats.

Over half the army strength was concentrated inside the British Isles, with a large contingent based throughout Ireland. Another 77,000 were in India alongside the British-officered Indian Army of 160,000 men. The remaining 47,000 were posted across the colonies, mostly in South Africa and Egypt. The British government had no need of resolutions from a United Nations to send its men abroad, it had resolutions of its own.

For nearly half a century the army had been engaged in a series of small wars all

round the globe, from China, through India and Africa, to Canada. Cannibal tribes in West Africa, Canadian Indian uprisings, Whirling Dervishes in the desert, Patan tribesmen on the North-West Frontier all fought and usually lost battles and land to the red-coated British army. No amount of native zeal could match the professionalism — and superior technology — of the imperial force.

The North-West Frontier was particularly busy in 1893, when a border was supposed to be drawn between the empire and the tribes.

Four years later the Afghans rose in fury at British thrusts across what they considered to be the frontier and it

took 35,000 British soldiers to quell the revolt and then only temporarily. The Soviet Union was to learn the same hard lesson there 90 years later. The British efforts were not peacekeeping, but vigorous peacemaking coupled with land acquisition.

For imperial military historians this was nevertheless the golden age. According to Major D.H. Cole in his *Outline of British Military History* (1936) "though comparatively small forces were engaged, the boundaries of the empire were steadily expanded and the map of the world coloured red in many regions beyond our sway".

For a long time there was real pride in the achievements of the small wars. "The British army has been one of the foremost civilising agents in the world," wrote Major Eric Sheppard in *A Short History of the British Army* (1926).

He admitted there was loss of liberty but "liberty only means the liberty of the strong to tyrannize their less fortunate fellows."



Sir Peter Harding, Chief of the Defence Staff, and Mr Rifkind meet the press at the MoD yesterday

## Unions predict a tide of redundancies

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TRADE unions issued a warning that the white paper would lead to thousands of job losses in the defence industry.

They feared that it would set off "a tide of redundancies" on which manufacturers had been holding fire until they knew the government's intentions. But the manufacturers expressed little surprise and were relieved that Mr Rifkind's statement included a continuing commitment to some important projects, including the Eurofighter 2000. Jack Dromey, public services national secretary for the TGWU transport union, said: "Employers have delayed announcing redundancies until the white paper. The combination of Treasury-led cuts and no moves to promote defence diversification will see a tide of redundancies over the next six months."

Unions in the defence industry gave a warning at the time

of the last white paper that they expected that a third of the one million jobs that depend on defence would go by 1995. Officials now calculate that 130,000 jobs have gone and that another 200,000 are set to go over the next three years.

The unions believe that defence should be strategically managed on the basis of a fully worked-out industrial policy. Mr Dromey said that "pitifully little" was being done to switch from defence to civilian work.

"The industry needs an industrial policy to generate work to fill spare capacity following the end of the Cold War," he said.

Mr Dromey, spokesman for the six industrial unions representing almost a million civilian defence workers, said

that the employers were depressed at the white paper because it contained nothing which would help them to win new orders.

He predicted that the biggest impact on jobs would be in the defence manufacturing, aerospace and ordnance industries. Service industries that make uniforms, rations and other goods for the armed forces would also have to shed jobs, he predicted.

Brigadier Brian Lowe, the director general of the Defence Manufacturers' Association, said that while most new construction projects had been retained, some maintenance and updating work would be lost. "It will have some implications, but not to an alarming extent," he said. "Most of this was fairly well anticipated."

"We have known since last September that there was going to be this cutback. There is not a lot in terms of new

work which is going to be cancelled, which is a relief to the industry."

The implications for jobs within the industry could not be fully assessed until they had had a chance to study the paper in detail, Brigadier Lowe added.

There was a broad welcome for the confirmation that the Eurofighter 2000 project (Efa) was to go ahead as planned and the commitment to replace the Royal Navy's amphibious vessels HMS *Intrepid* and *Fearless*.

The decision to go ahead with the army's attack helicopter was also welcomed, but there was some disappointment that there was no decision on whether to buy the Challenger 2 battle tank.

A spokesman for British Aerospace, one of the main Efa contractors, said: "We welcome the continued commitment to the project."



Death of a general: the loss of Gordon in 1885 ended the politicians' taste for adventurism

# 1993

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Scene 1: Maybe start with a wide establishing shot (good basic film school stuff) and zoom in as close as you like; it's a 15 X zoom. Now press 'Wipe' and the effect happens in camera.

Scene 2: Wipe to reveal what? Why not your main character? Switch to 'Portrait'. It gives pin-sharp focus on the foreground, whilst softening the background.

Scene 3: Time for action. Press 'Sports' mode and you're filming at a higher shutter speed. Cut!

Scene 4: The love scene. By candlelight? Press 'Digital Gain-Up' and you won't miss a magical moment as

they kiss. How to get out of it? A fade we suggest. The picture will simply fade in the camera.

Scene 5: Then fade up to, maybe a little special effects. Press 'Strobe' and the image strobes in camera. Then wipe. Or mix. Or cut to...

Scene 6: Something unusual. The 'Snap Shot'. Press a button and the image digitally freezes in camera for 5 seconds (whilst the sound continues).

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# Hard bargaining forces lawyers to reduce charges

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE cost of employing a solicitor can vary by nearly £100 an hour depending on the location of the firm, according to a survey published today.

The recession and tough bargaining by clients is forcing solicitors to cut their charges and offer better value for money. But hourly rates, which solicitors are now urged to tell clients at the start of a transaction, can vary from as little as £45 for an assistant solicitor in Wales or the North East to £255 for a partner in London.

The survey, published in Chambers & Partners' new directory of the top thousand law firms and barristers' chambers in England, Wales and, for the first time, Scotland, found hourly charges by solicitor-partners for private clients (as opposed to company or commercial clients) range from £80 to £255 in London to £55 to £160 in the North East.

Barristers' fees also vary enormously according to area of work, level of seniority and reputation. One clerk said he had "40 different barristers and around 40 different charge rates".

Hourly rates are not yet widely used at the Bar and most clerks charge "on a value

basis". A telephone conference on crucial issues on a big mergers and acquisitions deal could cost £500.

But on average in London, hourly charge rates for commercial work are £35 to £75 for a newly qualified barrister and £200 to £350 for a senior QC. By contrast, the range for common law work is £25-£80 for juniors to £175-£250 for senior QCs, and at the criminal Bar, from £50-£60 to between £150 and £220.

Solicitors are most costly in

Partner £/Hour	Private	Client
Region	Low	High
London	80	165
SE	80	105
Midlands	80	100
SW	85	90
E Anglia	55	90
NW	60	90
NE	55	90
Wales	55	90

Assistant Solicitor £/Hour	Private	Client
Region	Low	High
London	60	105
SE	60	70
Midlands	45	75
SW	45	70
E Anglia	55	70
NW	50	65
NE	45	65
Wales	45	70

Source: Chambers & Partners' Directory. Figures are basic rates and may be subject to a discretionary mark-up for complexity or weight of transaction.

London and the South East, followed by the Midlands. The cheapest region is the North, followed by East Anglia and Wales.

Non-partners, or assistant solicitors, are quoted £60-£135 in London at the low end and a range in Wales of £45-£95. In both cases, the figures could be subject to a further mark-up if the transaction is particularly large or complex but in most cases firms are now quoting the figure the client will pay.

Michael Chambers, director, editor, said: "It is only for the big commercial transactions where the responsibility is so enormous that firms will add a mark-up."

The directory says that as the recession has deepened, clients and lawyers have been forced into drastic cost-cutting, with lawyers' fees coming under increasing scrutiny. "Clients have found themselves in a strong bargaining position and the larger corporate clients are able to negotiate extremely favourable terms."

At the Bar, most clerks say fees have remained static and in some areas, such as intellectual property, fallen.

Chambers & Partners' Directory 1993/94 (74 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET, £16.95)

## Justice was done, says golf champion



In the rough: Woosnam yesterday after admitting drink-driving

## Court fines Woosnam £2,200

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE golfer Ian Woosnam was fined £2,200 and banned from driving for 12 months yesterday after admitting being twice the legal alcohol limit when he crashed his Mercedes.

His wife Glendryth was injured when the 35-year-old golfer lost control of the £80,000 car last month. It smashed through a hedge into a field, Shropshire magistrates were told. Tests showed that the golfer, of Oswestry, Shropshire, had more than twice the legal limit of alcohol in his blood, Jim

Shaw, for the prosecution, said. Terry Jones, for the defence, said Woosnam had flown to Sleep airport on the day of the accident. He had one drink on the aircraft, but had drunk at a business meeting the previous day.

Arguing for a minimum ban, Mr Jones said: "He is a personality well known in the golfing world and a ban is going to cause him incalculable problems." Woosnam said afterwards: "I just wanted to get it all over quickly. Justice was done."

## THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

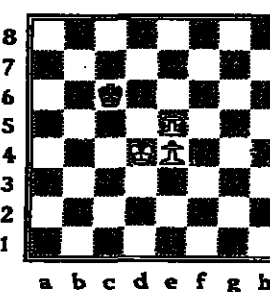
IN A curious tournament last month in Vienna a team of veteran male grandmasters, including Geller, Smyslov and Larsen, the heroes of my youth, were mown down by a team of ambitious young women. The women's side included Zsuzsa Polgar, Zsófia Polgar, Xie Jun and Maya Chiburdanidze. Here is Zsuzsa Polgar topping the once mighty Smyslov.

White: Zsuzsa Polgar  
Black: Vassily Smyslov  
Vienna 1993

### Dutch Defence

1 d4	e6
2 c4	f5
3 g3	Nf6
4 Bg2	Bc7
5 Nf3	O-O
6 O-O	c6
7 b3	Oe8
8 Qc2	Oe5
9 Bb3	Bb3
10 Nc3	d5
11 b4	a5
12 Qb3	Nbd7
13 Nc2	Nc4
14 b4	Nd6
15 b5	a6
16 a6	Ba7
17 Nc1	dxc4
18 Qxc4	Nd6
19 Qb3	Nb5
20 Nc2	Nd5
21 Na3	Nbc3
22 b5	b5
23 Nb1	Nc4
24 Ne5	Bb7
25 Bxc4	Be4
26 Nd2	b4
27 Nc4	Ba6
28 Re1	Bb5
29 Qc2	Nb6
30 Nc5	Nc3
31 Nb5	Qd5
32 Qb3	Oe5
33 f3	Ra8
34 g4	Qf6
35 Qc4	Nd5
36 Qd5	Qf4
37 Rc1	Nc3
38 Qc4	Ra2
39 Qxc2	Nc2
40 Rb3	Kf7
41 Rf6	Kf8
42 Ng5	Kf7
43 Nd4	g5
44 Ng2	Nc3
45 f4	Kg6
46 Kf2	h5

### Diagram of final position



47 gxf5+	Kxf5
48 hxf5	Kf6
49 Ne3	Kg5
50 Nd3	Kf5
51 d5	exd5
52 Nxd5	Nb5
53 Kg3	Nd6
54 f4+	Kg6
55 Kf3	Nf7
56 Ne5	Kf6
57 Ng4+	Kg6
58 Nc5+	Nc5+
59 fxe5	Kf7
60 Ke3	Ke7
61 Kd3	Kd7
62 Kc4	Ke6
63 Kd4	Black resigns

### Reader's Game

Bruce Birchall reports that in some quarters, chess played by fax is superseding postal chess as a means of playing at a distance. The following game was part of an 8-board fax match.

White: Workshop College  
Black: Mill Hill School  
Fax Match 1993

### King's Gambit

1 e4	e5
2 f4	d5
3 exd5	c6
4 Oe2	exd5
5 Qe5+	Bc7
6 Qg7	Bf6
7 Qg5	Bf4

White resigns

I have been inundated with games from readers. If you have played a fine game, send it to me c/o Championship Chess, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London EC1N 9DN for possible inclusion in this column.

### Championship update

Tickets for the Times Championship between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short include a guaranteed seat, free glass of champagne, souvenir programme, chess book and use of a personal Predict-a-move advanced computer game system fitted into every seat in the Savoy Theatre. Play is from 3.30pm to 9.30pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from September 7 to October 30. Adjudged games, if any, to which ticket holders will be admitted free of charge will continue the following day at the Savoy Theatre at the same starting time. Times readers booking a seat during July will also be treated to a free lunch at Simpsons-in-the-Strand, the traditional home of chess. Ring First Call on 071 497 9977 for credit card bookings or Simpsons itself for the special free lunch promotion on 071 836 9112.

Winning Move, page 44

## Kidney doctor's plea rejected

By A STAFF REPORTER

A HARLEY STREET specialist, struck off after being involved in the sale of kidneys from semi-literate Turkish peasants, yesterday failed in an attempt to be restored to the medical register.

At a hearing of the General Medical Council's professional conduct committee, Rosalind Foster, counsel for the GMC, said that Dr Raymond Crockett was "a spider at the centre of the web" in which the four peasants each lost a kidney for £2,000 to £3,000.

The organs were transplanted to private patients at the Wellington Humana Hospital

in St John's Wood, northwest London. Dr Crockett, 52, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, "brought disgrace on himself and dishonour to his profession", Miss Foster said. Dr Crockett's activities in the live kidney market were disclosed in a series of reports in The Times.

Two other surgeons disciplined for their part in the transplants, Michael Bewick and Michael Joyce, differed from Dr Crockett because it could be argued that they acted from altruistic motives. They were now free to practice, the hearing was told. But

Dr Crockett, as director of the National Kidney Centre, played a more culpable role, Miss Foster said. "He was struck off in 1990 after a 35-day hearing, the longest and most expensive in the GMC's history. Dr Crockett told the committee yesterday: 'My overriding wish was to help my patients.'"

Jonathan Cutler QC, his counsel, said: "Dr Crockett wants to resume his practice. He had been helping 'desperately ill people', some of whom had written on his behalf to say they were reborn after their transplants.

## Police say pushy tactics beggar belief

## Town gets tough on undeserving poor

By JOE JOSEPH

ONCE chastised by a wag as "the town of piers, queers and racketeers", Brighton is becoming more notorious this summer for its panhandlers, manhandlers and beggars with beers. Instead of being struck by the town's Regency charm, many tourists and single women are being struck by beggars who don't say please and won't take no for an answer. Many won't even take small change, except under duress. They prefer the sort of money that folds.

Anxious to regain Brighton's streets for its residents, for its many foreign students and for the tourist trade that keeps the East Sussex town afloat and its beaches busy, local police are combing the streets for violent beggars who are not cadging for spare cash but begging with menace. Their behaviour teeters so precariously on the brink of mugging that police treat them as criminals.

Chief Supt John Albon, of

Brighton police, says: "Brighton has a resident hard-core group of such beggars, probably numbering no more than 40 or 50. They are aggressive. They work in teams. With dogs. They will block off streets to prevent pedestrians passing, particularly women. They hover around bank cash machines in the street and



Down and out: a beggar in Brighton waits for passing charity, but others are adopting a tougher stance

pressure people to hand over notes. They grab women and punch men.

"We arrest them over and over again. They get released. So they have to go out and beg a little harder to pay the fine. Let me stress, we are not oppressing the homeless and the down-and-outs. It's just the criminal element we're crack-

ing down on, who beg menacingly. The community demands action."

Brighton is not alone in suffering this new breed of threatening beggar. Bath, Oxford, Edinburgh and Manchester are plagued by similar attacks. But Brighton, which has always been a magnet for the footloose, feels it is bearing an unfair share of the burden.

After the first month on the beat, the plain-clothed task force assigned to Operation Ringway has made 40 arrests and cautioned about 60 others. The culprits are mostly in their 20s and 30s, many of them living in DSS hostels rather than on the streets. Some have been caught with knives, cut-throat razors and a blank-firing pistol.

The police, though, know that by cleaning up the streets of Brighton, they may be merely transferring the beggars to nearby Worthing, Hove and Eastbourne. They acknowledge that the problem is not so much being solved as being recycled.

## Woman killed and set on fire

A DIVORCED man strangled his lover and set fire to her semi-naked body in a wood, a court was told yesterday.

Graham Cavill, 38, believed that Shirley Osment had been unfaithful. He told friends: "If I cannot have her, no one else will," the prosecution said at Bristol Crown Court.

The murder took place after Mrs Osment, a mother of three, had ordered him out of the home they shared at Westbury near Warminster, Wiltshire, said David Elfer, QC, for the prosecution. Mr Cavill, unemployed, had suffered two previous divorces and he knew his relationship with Mrs Osment was doomed.

Her body was found on fire in a cove at Dyrham Park in near Bristol by a hillwalker in May last year. Mr Cavill may last year. Mr Cavill denies murder and trying to pervert justice. The trial continues today.

## Villagers pitch in to save the last post

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE villagers of a remote community in the west of Ireland have come up with a unique scheme to try to save their endangered post office.

Faced with plans by An Post, the state postal body, to close the post office at Cranny near Ennis, co. Clare, they have offered An Post up to £115,000 of their savings to secure the future of the service.

The scheme is being organised by Pat Shannon, a housing officer with the local council and long-time Cranny resident, who said there had been 85 pledges of cash from villagers, from £100 up to £10,000. The money would be invested at 4 per cent in an An Post savings account, leaving An Post free to invest it at a higher rate elsewhere or to reduce its overdraft. Both options, Mr Shannon says, would generate enough profit

to pay for running the post office. As well as money, six villagers have offered their services and new premises at minimal fees once Frank Kelly, the postmaster, retires at the end of this month.

The battle to save Cranny post office may inspire pressure groups in Britain where thousands of rural post offices could be threatened by planned changes to pension payments and possible privatisation of the Royal Mail.

Mr Shannon believes that the post office, run from the front room of Mr Kelly's bungalow, is an essential ingredient of life in a small rural community.

Ann McHugh, a spokeswoman for An Post, said the amount of business being conducted by Mr Kelly was far too small to justify keeping the office open and there were four others within six miles.

## Cave moss gathers a new title

By NICK NUTTALL

A GREEN moss living in a cave in the Peak District has been formally accepted as a new British species 110 years after being discovered.

For nearly a century, *Thamnobryum angustifolium* was thought to have been a light-starved version of the more common *aleopecurum*. Yesterday, however, the clump, thought to have existed in the same damp spot since the last ice age, was under guard after being added to the list of plants protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

The decision to list the moss has delighted Dr Oliver Gilbert, of the landscape department at Sheffield University. He grew *angustifolium* and *aleopecurum* side by side under controlled conditions. "They both grew differently, they were genetically distinct."

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# Missing voters threaten to wreck boundary changes

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

PLANS to redraw the political map of England in time for the next general election could be wrecked by inaccurate statistics. The English Boundary Commission is to consider making substantial changes to its two-year review of constituency boundaries, completed only last week.

An Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) report received by the commissioners points out that the boundary review was conducted on an 1991 electoral register from which up to a fifth of eligible voters were missing in some areas.

The commission is now seeking legal advice before deciding whether more accurate records, such as census returns, can be used for revising the shape of 524 constituencies in England. If the commissioners feel that the law allows such a fundamental rethink, they may have to amend many of their original boundary changes, especially in cities where electoral registers are most inaccurate.

Such widespread re-examination would take the review well beyond its planned completion date at the end of 1994. MPs had pressed for the review to be conducted quickly so that boundary changes would be in place by the next general election.

Bob McLeod, secretary of the commission, said: "Clearly, if we need to go back to look at many boundaries again, there is no possibility it will be completed in time."

Commissioners accept that the 1991 figures are inaccurate and are unhappy that they were rushed into using flawed figures. The 1991 discrepancies were accentuated by large numbers of voters who "vanished" because of failure to register for poll tax.

Mr McLeod added: "We are in a very complicated area. If we decided that an extra seat

needed to be created in one area, we would then have to look at whether that would mean removing a seat from another area."

The commission's provisional recommendations added five English seats, taking the total to 529, but most proposals are being challenged at public enquiries. About a dozen counties have completed the full review process and now face the possibility of being reviewed again.

In inner London, the "lost voters" list is estimated to represent one-fifth of the electorate. The OPCS report estimated that nationally 7 per cent of voters were omitted from registers. Before the commission begins a series of public enquiries in metropolitan areas at the end of this year, it will produce a briefing paper setting out its arguments. "We need to give as much information to the public as possible," said Mr McLeod, mindful that the last boundary review in 1983 came under heavy criticism.

The final set of provisional recommendations announced

by the commission last week covered seats in north London, where it is claimed that missing voters could deprive each of the two main parties of prominent MPs. Under 1991 census figures, there would be 28 inner London seats, rather than the 24 seats drawn up on the basis of the 1991 electoral register.

Labour points to Tower Hamlets and Newham as areas where it will lose out, with five seats reduced to four, affecting the MPs Peter Shore, Tony Banks, Ron Leighton, Nigel Spearing and Mildred Gordon. The Ealing Acton constituency of Sir George Young, the housing minister, will be under threat as the borough's seats are combined with those in Hammersmith and Fulham.

The commission recommended a reduction in Barnet from four to three seats. Six seats in the boroughs of Waltham Forest and Redbridge are also to be combined and cut to five. Four seats are to be reduced to three in Kensington, Chelsea, the City of London and Westminster.

Grasping the issues: John Smith, who chaired the first meeting of the Socialist International's economic policy committee in London yesterday, talks with Birgitta Dahl of the Swedish Social Democratic Party. Thirty parties from around the world were represented.



Grasping the issues: John Smith, who chaired the first meeting of the Socialist International's economic policy committee in London yesterday, talks with Birgitta Dahl of the Swedish Social Democratic Party. Thirty parties from around the world were represented.

## Why the minister protests too much

William Waldegrave was in combative form last night. His keynote address to the Public Finance Foundation was billed as setting "academics straight on government's public service reforms". That is a bit rich for a fellow of All Souls. But then Mr Waldegrave has to adopt a populist rather than a high table manner to sell the Whitehall revolution.

His speech follows recent charges by constitutional specialists such as John Stewart and Vernon Bogdanor that the government's reforms — the creation of executive agencies, contracting-out and market testing — are flawed since they weaken democratic accountability.

Mr Waldegrave's response smacks of "the minister protests too much". Many civil servants, let alone politicians, will have to swallow hard before accepting his view that "far from a democratic deficit what we are now seeing are the results of a substantial democratic gain".

The changes under way in Whitehall are more far-reaching than is commonly understood. Three-fifths of civil servants already work in agencies. The divide between purchasers and providers, already well established in the health service, is now spreading to the heart of central government.

But how far are these changes altering conceptions of ministerial responsibility? Is central government gaining too much power over appointments to the large number of new trusts, quangos and similar bodies? Is the traditional idea of an impartial civil service being

compromised by the blurred line between politics and administration? Last month, Mr Bogdanor argued that the creation of executive agencies created a constitutional limbo. More and more decisions will be removed from ministerial scrutiny and oversight, while it is increasingly fanciful to pretend that heads of agencies are really accountable via ministers to Parliament.

The debate turns on differing definitions of democracy. The "academics" stress the primacy of accountability to elected MPs and councillors and the power of Parliament to scrutinise. Mr Waldegrave turns the question round to offer a market definition of democracy: "The key point is not whether those who run our public services are elected, but whether they are producer-responsive or consumer-responsive."

Mr Waldegrave overstates his case. The bogies of a legal straitjacket and universal litigation are invoked. He poses silly questions such as whether a bill of rights would provide compensation for stranded commuters.

You do not have to advocate a constitutional revolution to believe the reforms are lopsided. Changing the structure and management culture of public services is right and is producing gains. But Mr Waldegrave is stretching credibility in claiming that the basic structure of public service accountability to Parliament has not been "altered or undermined".

Only the facade remains of the traditional model of Whitehall. Mr Waldegrave would strengthen rather than weaken his reforms if he admitted that and sought to redefine the new role and accountability of the Civil Service.

PETER RIDDELL

## Lilley is attacked over lone mothers

By JILL SHERMAN  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A ROW erupted in the Commons yesterday over suggestions that some single women were deliberately becoming pregnant with no intention of marrying, knowing that they would be supported by the state. Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, denied he was preparing a crackdown, while the Opposition accused the government of giving the impression that lone parents were a "feckless group of social outcasts".

It was also disclosed that Mr Lilley has asked John Gummer, the environment secretary, to look at increasing the number of hostels for single mothers instead of allocating council flats. There have been claims that men agents become pregnant to jump council housing queues. Mr Lilley tried to distance himself from remarks made by John Redwood, the Welsh secretary, last Friday that lone mothers should not get benefit until absent fathers had been tracked down. Mr Redwood also said that some women had babies with no intention of trying marriage or a stable relationship with the child's father. Social security sources said that the comments were a bit "off beam", and Mr Redwood was not espousing government policy.

Mr Lilley told MPs: "We are certainly not against lone parents... The state has to step in with monetary help if parents are unable to support those children, but we can never substitute for that love or commitment."

However, it emerged that Mr Lilley had known what Mr Redwood was going to say. Further public statements from other ministers and right-wing MPs yesterday seemed to suggest that both Mr Lilley and the prime minister are happy for a high-profile debate over welfare payments for single parents. Downing Street sources said that Mr Lilley, Mr Redwood and the prime minister were in broad agreement.

Mr Lilley told MPs yesterday that the fastest growing sector of lone parents were the never married, and that the growing financial burden of state aid for lone parents — which had risen from £2.4 billion in 1981 to £6 billion in 1991 — needed to be looked at.

Donald Dewar, the shadow social security secretary, told MPs: "Ministers in this government may preach family values, but their policies constantly undermine family stability."

Leading article, page 19

## Major praises aid deal

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister yesterday hailed Britain's success at securing £2.5 billion in EC aid for regional development, but Labour questioned whether local authorities would be financially penalised.

On Saturday, EC regional affairs ministers agreed to £1 billion for Northern Ireland, just under £1 billion for Merseyside, and about £300 million for the Highlands and Islands from the EC structural fund.

Downing Street underlined Tim Sainsbury's success at the negotiating table.

However, Labour MPs immediately questioned whether all the money was additional or whether it would have to come from other budgets. They also pointed out that Mr Sainsbury, the industry minister, had not managed to get extra money for Devon and Cornwall, rural mid-Wales and South Yorkshire.

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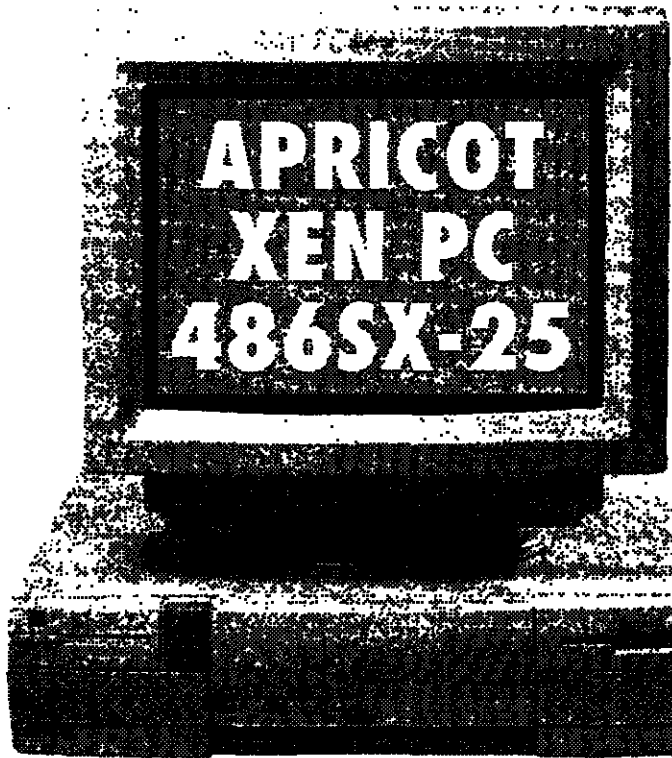
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## West must let Yeltsin police the East

THERE is a danger that the mistakes that the West has made in the former Yugoslavia may be repeated in the case of the disintegrated Soviet Union, where similar ethnic and territorial conflicts are brewing, any of which could generate a crisis of Bosnian proportions. We can still learn from our blunders and avoid them.

Some of our media tell us far less about Abkhazia — where Eduard Shevardnadze had a brush with death yesterday — the Transdniestrian republic, the Crimea, Ingushetia, South Ossetia or Tajikistan than they do about the royal family. The current intense shelling of Agdam by Armenian forces marks an upsurge of fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh. There is a tense stand-off between Russia and Ukraine over control of nuclear weaponry. Any of these conflicts has the potential to unleash a serious war involving Russia and perhaps other nuclear powers as well.

None of these conflicts is settled. Indeed, in none of them does the mechanism exist for creating and consolidating a lasting peace. In some of them fighting is still going on, in others a temporary peace has been patched up, and is being policed by interested parties

liable to be drawn into any incident that should happen to blow up. The ceasefire between the Transdniestrian republic and Moldavia is being patrolled by Russian army units, one of whose officers has described Moldavian leaders as "fascists". That is no way to secure long-term peace.

If events in former Yugoslavia have taught us anything, it is that we should be alert to possible crises before they explode and that we should endeavour to have mechanisms in place for resolving them in advance. The only person who has come forward with specific proposals for achieving this in the former Soviet Union is President Yeltsin. On February 25 he asked international organisations to grant Russia "special powers to act as guarantor of peace and stability in the region".

Most Western commentators reacted as if he were requesting carte blanche for Russia to throw its neo-imperialist weight around. Ukrainians were particularly alarmed, and made increased noises about hanging on to their nuclear weapons.

Yet there is no alternative to what Mr Yeltsin is proposing. Are we likely to send the Cheshires to Tajikistan? Russia is

**Geoffrey Hosking argues that the West should learn from its Yugoslav mistakes and encourage Russia's army to find a positive role in averting conflicts in the former Soviet Union**



Yeltsin: Russia's own wild men a danger to him

going to remain the key power in the former Soviet Union, whatever happens, and it will therefore have the main influence on war and peace there. We should take the opportunity of trying to integrate Russia into international organisations, which can at least monitor and influence its peacekeeping operations.

There is another possible interpretation of Mr Yeltsin's pro-

posal. By seeking the mandate of international organisations, he may be asking for help in restraining his own wild men — politicians and generals who are too keen to act like Serbs — to make territorial demands, or to intervene to protect the interests of Russians living outside the Russian Federation. Of course, he would also like financial support for peacekeeping duties.

We should take him at his word and see if we can devise effective arrangements to ensure that Russia's power is used in the interests of the international community rather than for the surreptitious restoration of the Soviet Union. At the moment, Mr Yeltsin would like to achieve his aim through the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). This is a toothless body. But it does have a security treaty which embraces seven of its members.

What Mr Yeltsin would like to do is to build it up into a recognised international security organisation, with its own

peacekeeping forces that can function under the aegis of the United Nations or possibly a strengthened Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. It could become a partner of Nato, assuming analogous responsibilities, but further east. This kind of co-operation has already begun in Yugoslavia.

It will be very difficult to strengthen the CIS. The non-Russian republics, especially Ukraine, are allergic to any suggestion that Russia is trying to find ways to reassert itself. But it is in their long-term interests to seek a stronger CIS, provided it is tied into wider international bodies. Without it, the other republics are in a vulnerable position: in bilateral dealings with Russia they will always be the weaker party.

Such an arrangement will not be easy to arrive at. But it offers the best hope of building lasting peace in the republics of the former Soviet Union. The West should encourage a peacekeeping partnership that offers a constructive role to the Russian army.

Geoffrey Hosking is professor of Russian history at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London.



Wave of independence: sailors peer through portholes in the frigate Getman Sagardahny, the first ship launched for Ukraine's navy. The vessel will not be part of the disputed Black Sea fleet

## Shevardnadze survives battle tank explosion

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

EDUARD Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, had a narrow brush with death when a tank exploded a few yards away from him as he toured the battlefields of Abkhazia on the Black Sea coast, it emerged yesterday.

The incident, which took place on Sunday night amid fighting between Georgian forces and separatist Abkhazian rebels, will enhance the former Soviet foreign minister's reputation for physical courage. According to Georgian officials, the tank blew up under the impact of an Abkhazian shell as Mr Shevardnadze was being driven northwards to the warfront from the hard-pressed sea port of Sukhumi.

Yesterday the harbour in Sukhumi — a town once a sybaritic centre of tourism and commerce — was heavily damaged by shelling as bitter fighting raged on every side. The bravery of Mr Shevardnadze, long associated with the padded lifestyle of a master diplomat, is acknowledged even by those Georgians who have reservations about the way in which he took power in his homeland last year.

An official of the Russian government, which has generally denied Georgia's allega-

tions that it actively backs the Abkhazian cause, said yesterday that Moscow did reserve the right to intervene in some circumstances. Boris Pustukhov, a Russian envoy back in Moscow from a trip to the war zone, insisted the two sides were capable of reaching a ceasefire agreement. He said Moscow would take the sternest view if peace efforts failed.

"Russia can no longer tolerate the fires of war, or stand idly by as cities which were once the gems of the Black Sea are burnt to ashes," he said, adding that Moscow would make every effort to end the war.

However, there were also reminders yesterday that there are factors in the Abkhazian war which are almost certainly beyond Moscow's control. A grouping of small Muslim nations on the northern slopes of the Caucasus mountains, who have already provided thousands of volunteers to fight alongside their Abkhazian brothers, said they were imposing a "general mobilisation" to raise fresh forces for the battlefield.

The coalition which is battling Mr Shevardnadze's army is a ramshackle mixture of small Muslim minority forces, Cossacks and Russian soldiers, whose precise relationship to the top brass in Moscow is kept deliberately vague.

Mr Shevardnadze, who has secured handsome amounts of Russian weaponry for his own army, by making local deals with the Russian garrison at Tbilisi, alleges that Russian commanders in and around Abkhazia are providing massive assistance to the rebels. His allegation is a plausible one, but it will never be quite clear to what extent Russian commanders are doing so under orders from Moscow, out of personal sympathy, or for money.



Shevardnadze has a reputation for bravery

## Refugees flee from Armenian shelling

FROM REUTERS IN AGDAM, AZERBAIJAN

SHELLING from Armenian forces yesterday echoed in Agdam, a key western Azerbaijani town near the disputed Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, as a stream of refugees fled east.

Local officials said shells — dropping once every seven minutes yesterday — had exploded non-stop throughout Sunday. They said ethnic Armenian forces from Karabakh had advanced to about half a mile south of Agdam and a mile or so to the west.

"All the heights around us are in Armenian hands," said Agdam's deputy mayor, Dzhamal Dzhafarov. "They are a kilometre down the central road south, where they captured our main defence outpost on Sunday." He reported street fighting in suburbs a mile from the town.

Agdam, a valley town just beyond Karabakh's mountainous eastern frontier, is inside Azerbaijani territory, is seen by Azerbaijani officials as a key defensive site. If it fell, they fear Armenian forces would be able to advance further down the road east to

Mr Dzhafarov said nine outlying villages fell into Armenian hands on Sunday. "We are still fighting, but many of our soldiers have died," he said. "Many of our 18-year-olds have been killed. Yesterday, a grain depot was also hit and our television links with Moscow were destroyed by shelling." He said at least seven people had died in Sunday's shelling.

Military back-up had started to arrive, he said. But he added there was little discipline, and troops were demoralised by a year of defeats and weeks of political turmoil in Baku.

Yesterday, the main road from Agdam to Baku was clogged with cars, tractors, lorries and car-drawn carts, packed with refugees fleeing Agdam. Others trudged out of the town on foot. Scores of people waiting for transport east were camping in makeshift tents. The fields, in a range of heights controlled by Armenian forces, were dotted with tanks. Central Agdam, once bustling with 150,000 people, had turned into a

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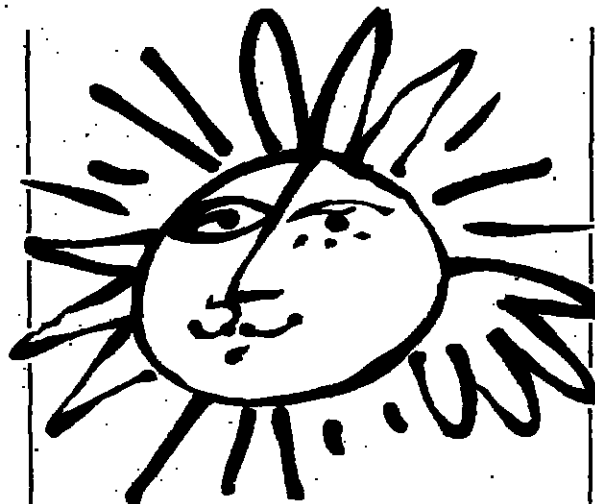
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## Iraqis braced for showdown after UN team pulls out

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU  
IN NICOSIA  
AND IAN BRODIE  
IN WASHINGTON

A SHOWDOWN between Iraq and the Gulf war allies loomed last night after United Nations weapons inspectors left Baghdad because they were prevented from installing surveillance cameras at two missile test sites.

As the inspectors left for Cyprus on their way to New York, a Baghdad newspaper run by President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday, denounced them as US lackeys and said Iraq would never succumb to intimidation.

The cameras would have monitored work at the two sites 40 miles south of Baghdad to ensure that Iraq did not test fire any missiles with a range greater than 93 miles, the limit decreed by UN ceasefire terms.

Nikita Smidovich, the team's Russian leader, said that Iraq claimed it had met all the UN's conditions on the scrapping of its weapons of mass destruction and was using the cameras issue to send a political message.

"Iraq chose this specific issue to put a political spotlight on relations between Iraq and the UN's special commission [on destroying Iraqi weapons]," Mr Smidovich said on arrival in Larnaca.

"Iraq considered that it has implemented [UN resolution] 687 [which demands the scrapping of its weapons of mass destruction] while the commission still has questions."

Iraq wants the UN to ease sanctions as a quid pro quo for the long-term monitoring of its conventional weapons programme. As the inspectors moved out, many Baghdad residents stockpiled food, fearing renewed attacks just eight days after the American missile strike on the intelligence headquarters in the city. Iraqi technicians began removing important equipment from the four possible target sites last week, UN sources said. The

**■ The clash over surveillance cameras could bring another punitive missile strike on Baghdad and at the very least ruin Iraq's desperate hopes of resuming oil exports**

UN has accused Iraq of violating Gulf war ceasefire resolutions and has spoken of serious consequences. In January, when Iraq last blocked the work of UN weapons inspectors, US warships unleashed 40 Cruise missiles at a Baghdad factory that Washington said was related to a killer weapons programme.

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, said Iraq's refusal to permit the cameras

most of the UN's conditions might not be enough to win the approval of the US and British governments.

Iraq had rejected the UN's offer to sell oil as an infringement of its sovereignty. That was because Baghdad would be unable to control the revenue, which would go towards buying food and medicine for the Iraqi people, under the UN's supervision, and to pay Gulf war reparations. Talks between Iraqi and UN officials on oil sales are due to begin in New York tomorrow.

There is some suspicion in Baghdad that the US is using the cameras dispute to play on the atmosphere of the oil talks, a senior oil analyst said.

Indeed, by blocking the UN cameras Iraq may have diminished its chances of winning concessions to resume oil exports. With masterly bad timing, the Iraqis have stalled for a month over the cameras until finally the UN inspection team left.

Iraq accused the US of using the cameras dispute as a pretext to launch more attacks on Baghdad. "Today we witnessed another link in the chain of conspiracy through the departure of the team of international experts which is mined with American elements," said Babel, published by Uday Saddam.

Jerusalem: A Muslim fundamentalist group daubed graffiti on walls in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip yesterday threatening to kidnap Americans if Washington extradited Shaikh Omar Abdel Rahman, the fundamentalist Muslim preacher, to Egypt.

Sources close to the Islamic Jihad group said, however, that the graffiti were more of a protest gesture than a serious kidnap threat. (Reuters)

### Nuclear vigil

THE refusal by Iraq to allow cameras in the ballistic missile facility north of Baghdad will undermine the whole United Nations inspection regime (Michael Evans writes). The International Atomic Energy Agency uses video and cameras to keep a constant watch on suspect nuclear facilities and to prevent the spread of covertly-produced nuclear weapons.

was a bad sign. Some Western diplomats said Iraq was gambling that the US would be unable to get security council backing for more missile strikes.

The trouble came amid signs that Iraq, increasingly hard-pressed by three years of sanctions, is willing to bend on another front: the UN's tough conditions for the resumption of limited oil sales. Iraq now sees a long-standing UN offer to allow it to sell \$1.6 billion (£1 billion) worth of oil as the best way out of its international isolation, the Middle East Economic Survey said yesterday. But the oil newsletter, published in Nicosia, said Iraq's willingness to accept



Defiant defendants: two of the 13 suspected Muslim extremists accused of the assassination a year ago of Farag Fouda, the leading Egyptian secularist author, on their way to court in Cairo yesterday by police lorry. If convicted, some of those on trial could face the death penalty

## Rusting funfair lightens Baghdad gloom

FROM RICHARD BRESTON  
IN BAGHDAD

IN A forgotten air-conditioned office at Baghdad's "Fun Town", Zuhair Taher, a short, dapper devotee of Walt Disney, is putting the finishing touches to what has become a daily miracle.

Before the first of as many as 50,000 Iraqis pour into his amusement park, he is making the final rounds to ensure that, for a few hours at least, he can help his countrymen forget the economic depression and political turmoil that has dominated their lives for the past three years.

"I visited DisneyWorld once, it was fabulous," said Mr Taher, pointing nostalgically to a framed map of the American amusement park which has pride of place on his office wall. "Maybe one day we will be able to build the same here."

For the time being, the 32 dilapidated rides in his own park would look inadequate even in the most rundown seaside funfair in Britain. The roller-coaster has been closed because qualified inspectors can no longer travel to Baghdad to make the necessary safety checks. The cable car has also stopped after technicians spotted rusting and fraying, and the bumper cars are being knocked out of action one by one through over-use and lack of spare parts. Even simple luxuries

like soft drinks are no longer available because of the shortage of sugar.

"It is far from perfect, but we have nevertheless done a good job at improvising and making our own spares, and most of the rides are still open and very popular," Mr Taher said, gesturing enthusiastically at a ferris wheel and ghost house which looked a little rusty but were operational. "The Iraqis are patient people, they make do with what they have," he said.

Outside the park, the children of Saad and Maida al-Hussein who were having a family picnic under a nearby eucalyptus tree while waiting for the gates to open.

"The girls get very excited

when they know we are coming here, preparing what they will wear the day before and getting up early so they will not lose any time," said Mrs al-Hussein, as the family sat down to a meagre meal of tea, sunflower seeds and small portions of meat and bread. "Picnics are something of a family ritual with us. We used to take them for granted every weekend, but now we can only afford it every month."

What only a few years ago would have been rejected as a poor man's meal by a family used to eating well and taking holidays has now become a luxury in a life beset by economic hardship.

Apart from assigning a

team of experts to help Mr Taher keep his amusement park going, President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday, has become the unofficial "minister of fun", responsible for launching the highly popular FM music station "Voice of Youth", which has English-speaking DJs and plays Madonna instead of his father's speeches.

However, Mr Taher is not convinced that enough is being done to ease the pressures of everyday life. "The children laugh and forget their troubles when they run around," he said. "But I have noticed that their laughter is not the same as before. A child follows its parents: if they are unhappy, he is also sad."



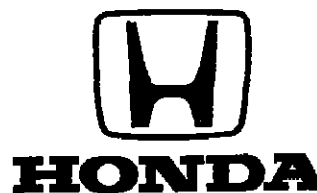
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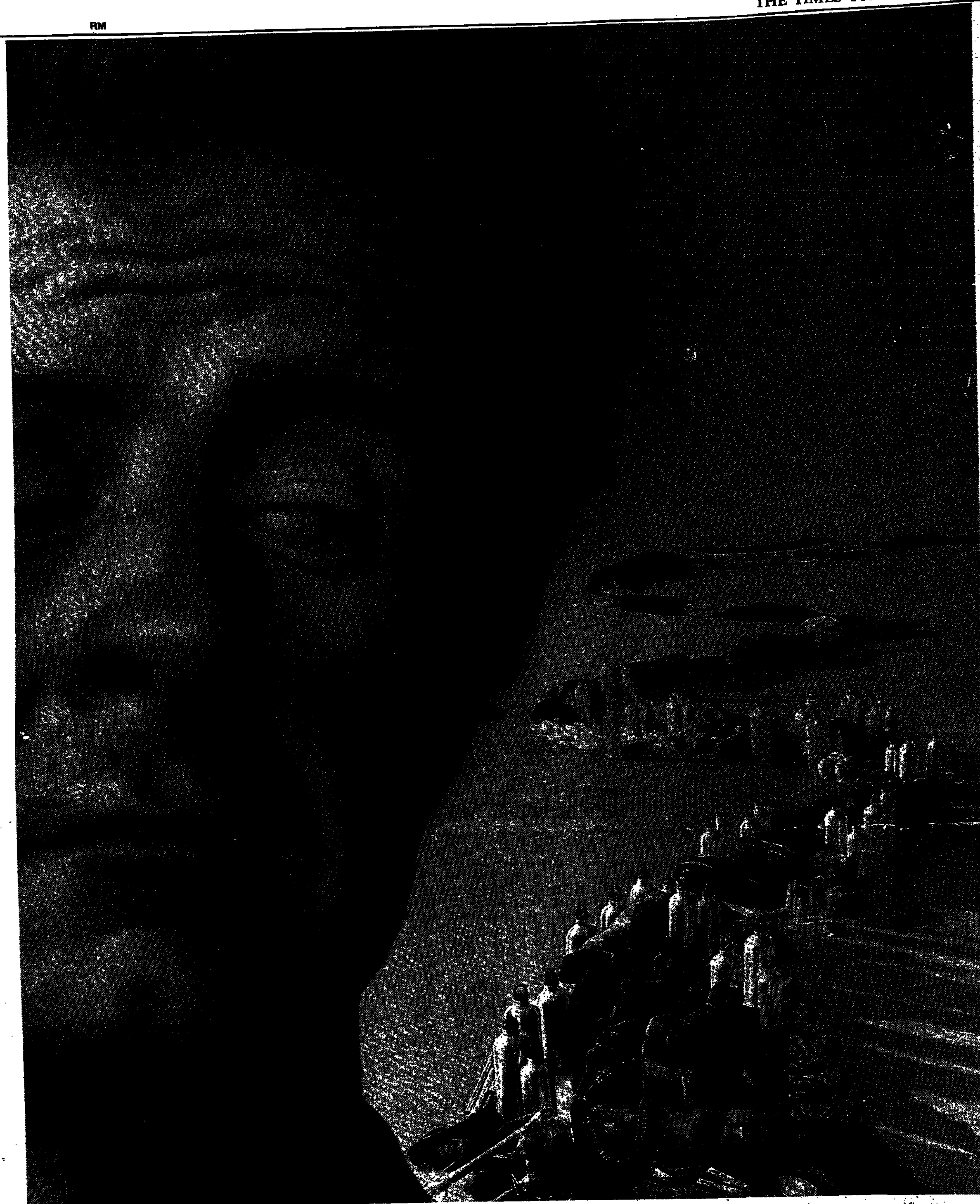
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# Tokyo old guard wages defensive poll battle as foes multiply



Miyazawa fighting from position of weakness

FROM JOANNA PYTMAN IN TOKYO

ALL over Japan, from the hamlets ringed with immaculately terraced paddy fields to the neon jungles of its vast cities, ruling Liberal Democratic party politicians are slipping on their white gloves and boarding slogan-daubed campaign buses to begin the most defensive and feverish election campaign in the party's 38-year term in power.

Since its debilitating split on June 18, when rebels led by Tsuruichi Hata, a former finance minister, joined forces with opposition parties to push through a vote of no confidence in the cabinet of Kiichi Miyazawa, the prime minister, 56 of the party's 380 Diet members have bolted to form or join opposition parties.

The LDP is also faced with the harsh reality that its traditional pillars of support are no longer intact. For almost four decades, the electorate has had three reasons to tolerate a party in power run by leaders who have been shown time and again to be embroiled in bribery scandals

**■ The election promises to be a watershed. For the first time in 38 years, the Liberal Democrats could end up in opposition**

and linked with organised crime. Firstly, the LDP has competently managed macro-economic policies that have rewarded Japan with low unemployment, low inflation and robust growth. Secondly, the LDP represented the security alliance with the United States, which provided Japan with a shield against potentially belligerent communist neighbours. Finally, there have been no credible alternative parties.

Today, the LDP's record is looking feeble as Japan enters its fourth year of "recession" with no tangible signs of a sustained recovery. Also, the reason for the US security umbrella no longer exists now that the Cold War is over.

breakaway group of former LDP members established the Shinseitō (officially translated as the Japan Renewal party) which calls itself a "new conservative party dedicated to progressive reform". Shinseitō is jointly led by Ichiro Ozawa, formerly the LDP's notoriously successful "king of the coffers". Mr Ozawa's righteous pledges to reform Japan's corrupt political system ring hollow, especially for those who recall that he studied at the feet of the LDP's three most famously corrupt and disgraced leaders, Kakuei Tanaka, Noboru Takeshita and Shin Kanemaru.

The Shinseitō has apologised for its scandal-tainted origins and pledged to run the LDP. It has initiated talks about a potential coalition with the four established opposition groups, the Social Democratic party of Japan, Komei party, the Democratic Socialist party and the United Social Democratic party.

A second group of LDP rebels has formed the Shinio Sakigake (the New Pioneer party), which is also pledged to "new conservatism and political reform". Masayoshi Takemura, its leader, has remained ambiguous about policies and potential future coalition partners, but has indicated that he wishes to maintain a distance from Shinseitō. "Our party is not anti-LDP, however, it is not for the LDP either," he said.

## Balladur weaves bond of trust in France

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

AS LOVERS of paradox, the French have much to savour today when taking stock of the first 100 days in office of Edouard Balladur and his Gaullist-dominated government.

The air is thick with the rhetoric of Wagnerian twilight and the economy is deemed to be hurtling into depression. Yet the honeymoon hums on for the sanguine and stately M. Balladur. The public is even recovering some affection for President Mitterrand, his lame-duck partner in a collaboration far more harmonious than expected.

Style rather than substance accounts for the goodwill which M. Balladur enjoys. The government has passed popular laws to curb immigration and clamp down on illegal residents, but in the economy, he has yet to show results.

While pessimism dominates the public mood, M. Balladur has managed to convey an image of confidence and authority which is soothing France's ragged nerves. On Sunday, he delivered a virtuoso television performance, appealing for patience and giving a paternal rebuke to subordinates who talk too much, including General Philippe Morillon, France's hero of the Bosnian war.

Le Figaro, the pro-Gaullist daily, likened the prime minister to Franklin D. Roosevelt and Pierre Mendès-France, the post-war Socialist statesman, for his skill at weaving a bond of trust with the public. While the public admires his old-world manner, M. Mitterrand is said to be preparing a more aggressive approach in the autumn, when the government will be more vulnerable.

## Britain keeps US guessing over cash for Russian fund

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN TOKYO AND IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE final size of Britain's contribution to President Clinton's privatisation fund for Russia was still being discussed yesterday despite claims in Washington that agreement had been reached with America's European allies and Japan.

Behind this contradiction lay a quiet tussle over whether money already pledged by Britain would be included in Mr Clinton's plan to provide \$500 million (£330 million) to help Russia transfer state assets to private control. The idea of converting bilateral aid already promised into multinational assistance is one option being considered in Whitehall.

The British stake in the Clinton fund is likely to be agreed at the Group of Seven summit in Tokyo, but British officials were not prepared to predict yesterday how much of it would be new money. Before Mr Clinton proposed his idea, Britain had pledged £120 million to a "know-how" fund to help Russian businesses function in a capitalist economy. The government has no wish to turn its back on Mr Clinton's idea but was also exercising caution about giving twice to the same cause. The privatisation money is in addition to Britain's contribution of £1.13 billion to earlier G7 commitments, plus Russian aid charged to Britain's account through membership of the IMF and World Bank.

Other contributions to Mr Clinton's fund were reported yesterday to be \$125 million from America, \$120 million from Japan and \$80 million from Germany, which The New York Times said Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, agreed to in one of several telephone calls the president made to G7 leaders' last Saturday.

In promoting his plan, Mr Clinton has run into the reality that all his G7 colleagues are weaker at home than he is,

despite his own setbacks. Originally, his idea was to help President Yeltsin with \$4 billion in international assistance for privatisation. This sum was criticised last month by Kabuo Muro, the Japanese foreign minister, and has now been scaled back to \$2 billion, of which \$1.5 billion will come from the World Bank.

Meanwhile, the Clinton administration and the Japanese government reopened bilateral trade talks in a late attempt before the summit to conclude an agreement that would regulate the trading relationship between the world's two largest economies. These talks coincide with a final effort by G7 trade negotiators, who meet today in an attempt to reach an outline market-access deal, a vital part of the Uruguay round, but American officials held out little hope of success.

If they do somehow reach a bilateral agreement, however vague, and if separately the so-called Quad group — the European Community, America, Japan and Canada — fail in tomorrow's market-access talks, the emerging picture would raise concerns of bilateral trading arrangements taking on increasing prominence at the cost of the 115-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The Americans appear to be moving towards bilateral trade accords with Japan, Canada and Mexico, while at the same time appearing to drag their feet on a world trade pact. But Washington takes the view that its trading relationship with Japan is the most problematical, and thus deserving of a separate solution. Last year, the US incurred a trade deficit against Japan of \$49.6 billion, almost half of its total trade deficit of \$107.1 billion.

Diary, page 18  
Letters, page 19  
Lesson of recession, page 27

## Lagos explodes in violent protest over election veto

BY ELIZABETH OBADINA IN LAGOS AND KATE ALDERSON

THOUSANDS of people lit bonfires, stole cars and looted shops in the streets of Lagos yesterday in protest at the decision of General Ibrahim Babangida's military government to annul last month's elections.

The unrest, the first to hit Nigeria's biggest city since the election, broke out hours before a democracy march that had been organised by the Campaign for Democracy pressure group.

Authorities sealed off the central business district as up to 20 districts exploded into violence. Tear gas was reportedly fired from police helicop-

ters in Lagos's central Marina area and close to the Central Bank in nearby Tinubu Square. Mainly peaceful protests, which disrupted heavy morning commuter traffic, were also reported in the Oshodi and Ebute Metta areas of Lagos.

Unrest has been brewing since June 16 when the dictatorship abruptly annulled the elections apparently won by Moshood Abiola. General Babangida claimed that the voting in Nigeria's most peaceful and well-organised election had been rigged and declared a new ballot must be held on July 31. He has repeatedly reneged on promises to return Nigeria to democracy under civilian rule.

Mr Abiola, 55, yesterday urged the pro-democracy protesters in Lagos not to vent their anger against the army. "This is not a civilian versus army issue," he said. "The Nigerian army voted overwhelmingly for me on June 12. The Nigerian army is not against democracy per se."

Since Friday, General Babangida's government has detained a number of human rights activists and pro-democracy supporters. They included Nigeria's most prominent civil rights leader, Beko Ransome-Kuti, who was

released on Saturday, and Chief Gani Fawehinmi, a human rights lawyer, who was freed yesterday.

Ken Saro-Wiwa, the Nigerian author who leads a movement for greater autonomy for the Ogoni people, was also arrested and is still, according to reports in the Sunday

Concord in Nigeria, in detention in Owerri, where he urged Nigerians to boycott the new election date. He said: "The Babangida administration is now lost in the political labyrinth... the only way out is for the general to retrace his steps backwards."

Babangida: claimed the vote was rigged

Rudely silenced, page 16



Shared honours: President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, flank President Clinton at a ceremony in Philadelphia where the two South African leaders received the Liberty Medal. An outburst by Mr

Mandela at a press conference with Mr de Klerk led to anguished activity and to level the playing field before the election, set for April 27. He said the ANC could not give up the sanctions weapon, because it did not trust the regime to carry through

of a transitional executive council to supervise aspects of government activity and to level the playing field before the election, set for April 27. He said the ANC could not give up the sanctions weapon, because it did not trust the regime to carry through

the reform unless this loaded gun were still aimed at it. Marthinus van Schalkwyk, the head of media liaison for Mr de Klerk's National Party, said it was clear that Mr Mandela had fired the first salvo in the election campaign.

## Denktas leaves peace talks

Nicosia: Rauf Denktas, leader of the breakaway Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, threw stalled peace talks with the Greek Cypriots into further disarray yesterday by announcing that he would no longer represent his community in the United Nations-sponsored process (Michael Theodorou writes).

Mr Denktas said differences with Dervis Eroglu, the prime minister, and other leaders in the ruling National Unity Party had forced his decision.

## Arrest sought

Milan: Magistrates have issued an arrest warrant for one of Italy's richest businessmen, Salvatore Ligresti, on suspicion of corruption. Signor Ligresti was freed from a jail term for corruption last year. (Reuters)

## Bhutto invited

Islamabad: Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani prime minister, said he was not afraid to hold mid-term elections and urged Benazir Bhutto, the opposition leader, to meet him to discuss her demand for polls. (Reuters)

## Poles taxed

Warsaw: Value-added tax took effect with a whimper instead of the predicted bang, while merchants enjoyed profits from record purchases by Poles fearful that its introduction would bring high prices.

## Cyclist jailed

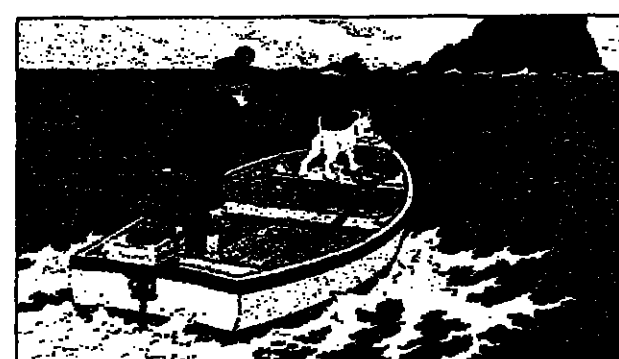
Prague: Radomir Simunek, the Czech cyclo-cross world champion, was sentenced to 18 months in jail and banned from driving for four years for causing the deaths of three people. (Reuters)

## Puritan move

Rome: Draconian measures by a Northern League mayor against tourists wearing swimsuits in the streets of Alessio have raised fears of a puritan drive by the devolutionist movement.

## Tintin grows up and discovers sex

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK



Lost innocence: one man and a dog in search of "life"

IT COULD not be more shocking if Asterix announced he had herpes. The Famous Five were arrested for drug abuse and Peter Pan was implicated in the World Trade Centre bombing.

Tintin, the wide-eyed doggo in plus-fours created by the Belgian cartoonist Hergé, has grown up.

A new novel by an American writer, Frederic Tuten, entitled *Tintin in the New World — a Romance*, has taken the comic-strip hero with the vertical quiff, the snub nose and the swift uppercut and plunged him into Real Life. The book has reached *The New York Times* bestseller list accompanied by the most serious reviews, but it has set the nerves of Tintin purists jangling (as Captain Haddock might put it) like ten thousand blistering barnacles in a thundering typhoon.

The novel begins with Tintin idly perusing an erotic novel as he sits in Marlinspike Hall, the mansion he shares with Captain Haddock, Nestor the butler and his dog Snowy. He muses: "Adults. Always the same: all for lust

and murder... I shall always be glad to have stayed stunted at 12... Quirk of biological fate — my best luck."

Captain Haddock, boozey and cantankerous, has other ideas and thinks the young Tintin might benefit from a walk on the wild side. In the space of 239 pages Tintin enters a new world where he falls in love, loses his virginity, commits murder, develops a political conscience, discusses philosophy and gets married.

Tintin grows venerable and observes that his youthful urge "to set this wrong world

right" has been "winnowed down to acrimony over property."

A wildly inventive allegorical fantasy, *Tintin in the New World* is a serious novel hiding behind a comic-book conceit, which is also extremely funny.

Tuten has exploited the realisation, which comes to all readers of the Tintin books at a certain age, that there is something deeply peculiar about a young man who spends his life fighting villains in various parts of the globe but knows nothing about sex,

lies and human frailty. Tintin is a journalist, for heaven's sake.

Children grow out of Tintin, in a way that they may never grow out of, say, the reliably sarcastic and witty Asterix.

After the first Tintin book was published in 1929, Hergé (the nom de plume of Georges Remi) went on to write 21 more, selling 130 million copies across the world. In France, Tintin is a national institution. Tintin is just the latest cartoon icon to find himself battered by modernity: Superman has already met his nemesis. Popeye was recently hauled up for his views on abortion, and even good old Charlie Brown has been subjected to detailed, post-Jungian analysis.

However, although *Tintin in the New World* has stirred controversy in literary circles and has been taken a tad too seriously by some, many people who grew up while Tintin did not still feel that, as he approaches his three score years and ten, the old boy should be allowed to slip into his doghouse in blissful innocence.

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## More life and death, please



MARGOT NORMAN

Once upon a time, a very long time ago, the Spartan ancestors of the 1993 Wimbledon men's champion used to march off to battle knowing there was only one rule they had to obey: go out there and win, chaps, or don't bother coming home. I expect there was a Sampras at Thermopylae, grimly holding the pass with Leonidas and his little band of toughies against a million Persians — Herodotus was as much given to exaggeration as modern commentators, please note — and knowing that, once the king had been skewered, there was nothing for it but to stand and be skewered too. "Go tell the Spartans thou who passest by, That here obedient to their laws we lie." If any of them said the F-word in *extremis*, Socrates certainly didn't think it rated a mention in the famous epitaph.

Yet there was young Pete Sampras, aka Pistol Pete and the Princess of Wales's Pan-

ther, damn near getting banned from the tamed form of combat known to man, for pulling a nasty face at the thoroughly partisan and un-sportsmanlike crowd that was rooting for our own dear little Andrew Foster on court 14 and uttering, not even an unprintable, but a sourly sarcastic remark. Po-faced commentators, whose own children are doubtless thoroughly familiar with the F-word, had the nerve to anathematise the referee, Alan Mills, for letting Sampras and Courier (who cursed one of the umpires) tread the sacred turf of the centre court in the final.

Then, when the soft-footed panther and the pink-nosed polecat had served 120 miles per hour balls at each other for an afternoon as ostensibly required, lips tightly buttoned, the commentators turned round and complained that they'd been bored, and the two gladiators might as well have been robots. No matter that we saw unparalleled athleticism both sides of the net and second serves from Sampras so powerful that the term needed redefining. What was wanted, they wrote, was raw emotion.

Fred Perry, toughest of the anti-swearers brigade, loved the women's final because it was "tense and emotional". If our gladiators can't give us

real blood, then we'll make do with tears and a hug from a duchess, eh? Spartan values please us and our baying spokesmen no better than loose Athenian ways with free speech, it seems. What's wanted is tension, the tension of a fight to the death transmutated into a framework in which the suspense depends on wondering whether... oh dear, it does sound feeble... a player will stamp his foot, curse the umpire or burst into tears.

The key to all this is stagecraft, the lack of which in this final was bemoaned. In other words, even if nothing more than a fat cheque was at stake, the players' duty was to act well enough to convince us it all really mattered. Underlying all this talk of sportsmanship and politeness is that disconcertingly delicious anticipation with which school boys used to descend on Crystal Palace for the Formula Two racing, all making for the corner in which there was a real

chance of seeing a bloody pile up.

Poor tennis, such a beautiful game and so over-loaded with expectation. It is telling, is it not, that although seven players were this year fined a total of £4,522 for bad language and an eighth was done to the tune of £334 for slamming a ball out of court, the worst offence, with a fine of £1,334, was committed when Ivanisevic refused to exchange a spot of free speech with the press after his match. Like I said, it's all about stagecraft.

The true Spartan never showed emotion and hardly spoke, especially not to foreigners. When Martina Navratilova first left Czechoslovakia, then the most grimly spartan of Soviet satellites, she too was criticised for being unsmiling, unemotional, too deadly keen to win. But she soon learnt the hypocritical tricks of crowd pleasing.

Now she can be heard making jolly remarks like "Look at soccer. They have armed police on horseback, and dogs, and fences. Tennis is still a sport, not a matter of life and death." That's the authentic tone of this game within a game. And I see Sampras is getting the hang of it. His remarks about how the Wimbledon crowd was beginning to like him, and how good that felt showed an apt pupil.

### Martina has learnt how to make jolly remarks

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## Peter Taylor on man's ancient and ambiguous relationship with bees



Seeing only what is fair, sipping only what is sweet: some of the most brilliant minds, including that of Sherlock Holmes, have been attracted by bee-keeping

# Honey's fatal sting

The death at the weekend of a leading academic, after being stung by hundreds of his own bees, is a reminder of the ambiguity with which we regard *apis mellifera*, the common honeybee.

Dr Ralph Johnson, the dean of postgraduate medical studies at Oxford, died shortly after the bees found a way through his protective hat and face mask (his obituary appears on page 21). But lamenting the freak accident, Sir Claus Moser, a close friend, made a telling remark when he said: "What got into those bees in that awful moment, we'll never know."

Rampaging swarms of "killer bees", with unambiguous purposes, is the stuff not only of the annual newspaper "silly season", but also of horror movies. The very idea of the all-powerful queen bee, surrounded by fierce and disciplined regiments of soldiers, touches some atavistic core of the psyche. In *The Bees*, the 1978 film, a swarm flies all the way from Brazil just to attack UN headquarters in New York.

And when, in the mid-1980s, African bees really did arrive in north America in large numbers, the panic was palpable. Stories abounded of small mammals being swarmed. Even the experts were no consolation. Thomas Rinderer, a specialist at the United States agri-

culture research services who had studied African bees for more than a decade, declared: "Get away as fast as you can. You can't stand your ground with these bees. They're not like other bees, from which we tell you to retreat gradually. Get away. Go inside, even if it's inside a car. Get in and roll up the windows."

Yet from ancient times bees have also been a source of sublime inspiration, and bee-keeping has had a special appeal to those of an intellectual disposition. From Virgil, Cicero, Aristotle and Plato — all of whom eulogised the bee — the groves of academe have been beelod. The organisational qualities of the bee seemed enviable, both to early students of politics and to early practitioners of the art. According to legend, Jupiter was nourished by bees, and the poet Pindar was reared on honey rather than milk. One of Africa's great mysteries, the Zimbabwe ruins, has at its heart a construction shaped like a conical hive. R.W. Emerson was one of many who admired the bee's industry.

Wiser far than human seer,  
Yellow-breeched philosopher!  
Seeing only what is fair,  
Sipping only what is sweet,  
Thou dost mock at fate and care,  
Leave the chaff, and take the wheat.

And Isaac Watts's lines, "*How doth the busy little bee/Improve each shining hour*" were presumably the inspiration for all those "bees" in north America, where well-meaning people gather together to do something useful, such as sewing or spelling.

In Britain there are reckoned to be 35,000 bee-keepers, a few hundred of whom are professional bee-farmers. A professional usually has at least 300 hives, whereas an enthusiastic amateur may have a handful. The bee is nothing if not adaptable, and in recent years has moved from country areas — where it is under attack not only from farmers' pesticides and the deadly *Varroa* mite — to urban areas.

The recently-retired governor of the Bank of England, Lord Leighton, kept a small colony of bees on the Bank's roof-garden. An average yield in Britain is 30lb of honey for each hive, but in London the average is 100lb, rising to 200 lb in the suburbs. The streetwise bee is being encouraged by the British Beekeepers' Association, which is busily persuading people to start "bee gardens".

The devotion of bee-keepers to their craft is legendary. People like Buckfast Abbey's Fr Adam (now 94 years old) have devoted their entire lives to improving bee strains. In Fr Adam's case, his search took him

not only all over the Mediterranean but to the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro in Kenya. The resulting Buckfast bee — said to be "cheerful, good-natured and super-productive" — is generally disinclined to swarm. Just as important, in cost-effective times, it lives longer than other bees, adding a few weeks to the average worker bee's life.

Surprisingly perhaps, there are now moves to restore the racial purity of the British honeybee. Last year, experiments began at the Hatfield College of Agriculture and Horticulture, near Tonbridge, Kent, to artificially inseminate 70 pure-bred virgin queens to produce a "British superbee". Work on a similar project initially began in Germany in the 1930s as a by-product of the Nazi obsession with eugenics. The objective — rather like trying to restore the red squirrel population after years of depredation by grey squirrels — is to re-establish the indigenous bee which, until interbreeding began in the late 19th century, was the only bee kept in Britain.

The study of bees has even produced benefits for medical research, most recently in the area of brain damage. By the extraordinary process of injecting brain extracts

from adult bees into bee embryos, the young bees can immediately navigate back to the hive from a mile away. They also begin foraging immediately, a process which usually develops later in life. There is now the possibility that, through a similar procedure, the implanting of human brain extracts might go some way to repairing damage sustained in accidents.

Even Sherlock Holmes eventually succumbed to the bliss of bee-keeping. In the very last Conan Doyle story, *Second Stain*, Dr Watson observes of Holmes: "Since he has retired from London and taken himself to study and bee-farming on the Sussex Downs, notoriety has become hateful to him". From "bees in the house" to Arthur Askey's famous ditty about being a busy little one, the creatures inhabit not just our gardens but our imagination: always half-admired and half-fearful. And it is the enigma of the bee, and our ambiguity about it, which inspired possibly the definitive verse on the subject from John Bunyan:

The bee goes out and honey home doth bring,  
And some who seek that honey find a sting,  
And wouldst thou have the honey, and be free  
From stinging, in the first place kill the bee.

## A good man in an African jail

William Boyd celebrates a brilliant Nigerian writer now behind bars

I came back from holiday to discover that a friend of mine had been arrested. This was a first, but matters soon degenerated further. My friend, it transpired, had not been arrested by the police, but by the state. Furthermore, no charges had been made against him and he was being held *incommunicado*. The name of my friend is Ken Saro-Wiwa and the government that has incarcerated him is that of Nigeria, under General Babangida.

Ken Saro-Wiwa is an extraordinary man and an extraordinary writer. Indeed, I can think of no other writer anywhere else in the world who reproduces even half of his many facets. He is a novelist and a writer of children's books. His novel about the Biafran war — *Sasaby* — is one of the great achievements of African literature. He is a publisher who publishes and distributes his own works and those of other Nigerian writers. He is a campaigning journalist, of uncommon vigour, whose weekly columns

over the years — in the Nigerian newspapers *The Vanguard* and the *Sunday Times* — possess a *sarva indignatio* and uncompromising virility of which Jonathan Swift would be proud. On top of these attributes he is the financier, producer and writer of a soap opera on Nigerian television called *Basi & Co* which, I believe, holds the world record for the most watched soap opera ever, with upward of 30 million viewers out of Nigeria's 100 million-plus population sitting down to watch at any one time.

What makes *Basi & Co* more than just an astonishing ratings success is the fact that it does not purvey some fantastical notion of suburban angst or some whimsical version of middle brow wish-fulfillment. Rather it concerns itself with the get-rich-quick dreams of its down and out hero, Basi, and his cronies, and their inevitable and remorseless failure, apathy and the graft-obsessed attitude that Saro-Wiwa considers has infected and corrupted Nigerian society. *Basi*



Saro-Wiwa: unremitting in his pursuit of justice and reparations for the Ogoni tribe

& Co has a genuine moral fervour behind it, an attempt through satire to encourage Nigerians to laugh at themselves and to mend their ways. Saro-Wiwa wants his country to improve itself. He wants its citizens to work hard and excel and fill out a role in Africa and the world that Nigeria should be occupying. His own life exemplifies the virtues he prescribes. Born in 1941 near Port Harcourt in eastern Nigeria on the Niger River delta, Saro-Wiwa was educated at the University of Ibadan

where he read English literature. When the Nigerian civil war broke out in 1968 he was trapped in the secessionist east — Biafra — but escaped and crossed the front lines to the federal side. He was appointed civilian administrator to the crucial oil port of Bonny. Although an easterner, Saro-Wiwa did not support the Biafran cause because it was dominated by the Ibo tribe. As an Ogoni (one of the 30 or so significant ethnic groups that the Ibos had corralled into Biafra) Saro-Wiwa felt that an

Ibo-dominated Biafra was not in his people's best interests. This concern for the rights of the Ogoni people within a federal Nigeria, rearing the cause closest to his heart and it is his recent efforts on their behalf that, as far as one can gather, have led to his arrest. The home-lands of the Ogoni lie on top of Nigeria's oil resources. The extraction of petrochemicals by multinational oil companies has devastated the countryside and produced no revenue at all for the people on whose land the

reserves have been found. Over the last few years Saro-Wiwa has campaigned with his usual unremitting vigour for justice and reparations for what he describes as the progressive "genocide" of his tribe. Saro-Wiwa has been scathing in his accusations, directed both at the oil companies and at Babangida's government: he has taken his case to the UN and organised a peaceful demonstration of 300,000 people in Ogoniland in January this year. Somebody obviously decided he should be stopped.

Saro-Wiwa is a brave man and a force for good in Nigeria. Everything he has achieved in his writing professional life has been undertaken with the view of improving the lot of his countrymen and releasing their potential. He writes for a Nigerian audience, he publishes for Nigeria, he campaigns in his journalism against corruption and stupidity and he struggles to achieve justice for oppressed Nigerian minorities. When a state arrests and holds without charge citizens of this calibre it is a sign of terminal decay.

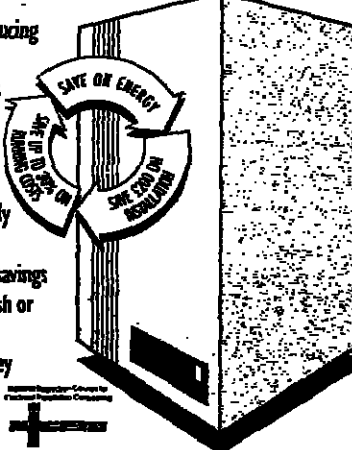
President Clinton and the US government are reassessing their position regarding Nigeria in the light of the annulled democratic elections last month. It is to be hoped that John Major's government will follow suit. If the Nigerian government is concerned to reassure the world community of its essential probity then one of its first acts should be the unconditional release of Ken Saro-Wiwa.

William Boyd's works include *A Good Man in Africa*

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سید زید



# Beth turns a bionic ear

Illness robbed a child of her sense of hearing. Technology helped her to regain it. Aileen Ballantyne reports

When Beth Bearder contracted a form of meningitis four years ago, she changed overnight from a happy, talkative, 15-month-old baby learning a new word every day to a troubled child isolated in a world of total deafness.

For more than a year, her parents, Claire and Mark Bearder, from South Normanton, near Derby, feared that since she had lost her hearing in the crucial early years when language is acquired, their daughter would never speak normally.

Beth was so profoundly deaf that conventional hearing aids were of no help. But, two years ago, when she was nearly three, she became one of the first children in Britain to be given a highly sophisticated electronic ear implant that has restored her sense of hearing. Now, like most five-year-olds, she hardly stops talking, attends a normal school and, according to an assessment last week by her teachers, has the same level of speech and vocabulary as any other child of her age.

The high technology implant is just one of a rapidly increasing number of developments for Britain's eight million deaf people, which, only a few years ago, would have been dismissed by many experts as science fiction. Today, in Wye, near Ashford, in Kent, more than 100 leading international scientists are meeting to set up research projects that could lead to the development of drugs with the ability to regenerate the vital sensory cells in the ear. Damage to these cells — known as hair cells — is the primary cause of deafness. It can be caused either through illness, congenital defects or a combination of genetic susceptibility and age. The 15,000 cells in a normal, healthy ear pick up the sound

signals from outside and transform them into electronic signals, which are transmitted to the brain where they are understood as sounds.

The £250,000 proposed research programme will be sponsored by funds raised by the Hearing Research Trust charity. This was founded by the Labour peer, Lord Ashley of Stoke, who lost his hearing in 1967 as a result of a minor operation on his ear that went wrong. The belief that such regeneration is possible is based on recent experiments which show that mammals appear to have the ability to regenerate these cells; an ability which, until a few months ago, was thought to be confined to reptiles, fish and birds.

In the case of children like Beth Bearder, who cannot afford to wait for advances in research, rapidly developing computerised technology at present offers their best hope. The new electronic device — known as a cochlear (inner ear) implant — successfully bypasses the inner ear and provides an electrical current to stimulate the hearing nerve directly, effectively doing the job of the sensory cells.

The device is implanted during a two-hour operation which involves the surgical insertion of 22 electrodes into the inner ear. Once the patient's hair grows back, the permanent part of the device becomes totally invisible. The implant works by picking up sound from a tiny external microphone worn behind the ear, which transmits the essential elements of speech through a miniature "walkman" carried in the child's pocket.

Adults who have gone completely deaf in later life and can compare the "hearing" they have using the implant with normal hearing like the sound to the automated lan-

guage generated by the new form of telephone directory enquiries.

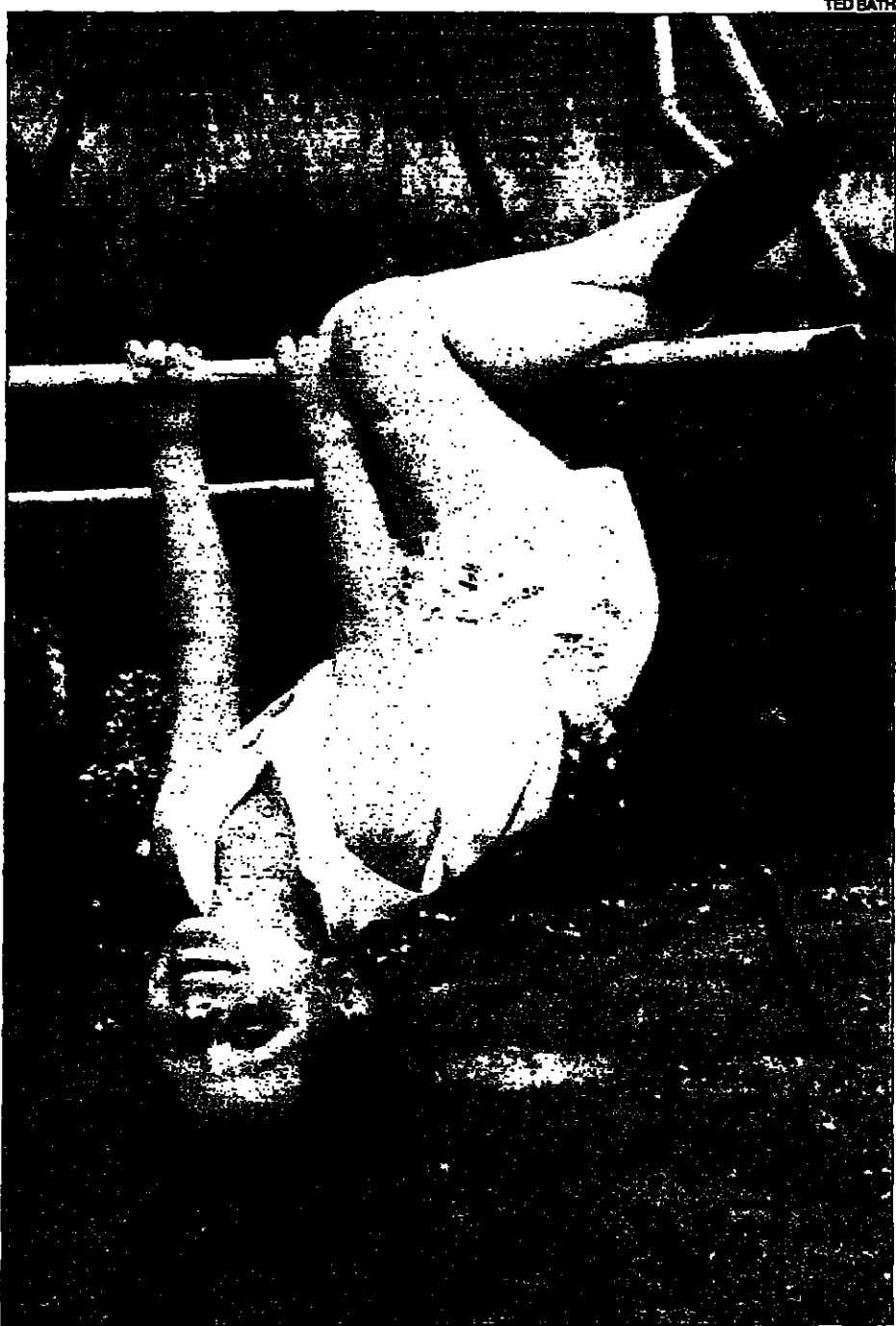
The operation was pioneered in young children in Britain by Gerard O'Donoghue, a consultant ear surgeon at Britain's main hearing assessment centre for children at Nottingham University Hospital. He emphasises that children who lose their hearing totally in the first years of life should have first priority for the surgery, which, with follow-up "tuning" of the device, teaching and rehabilitation costs £30,000.

"It may sound expensive," he says, "but without the ability to hear and communicate learnt in early life a child has little future chance of competing in the job market and can become depressed and isolated."

Mr O'Donoghue adds that, already, as a spin-off from cochlear implants, conventional hearing aids are improving beyond all recognition. "Digitally programmable hearing aids are now being developed which have the ability to synthesise speech, rather than simply amplifying all sound including unwanted background noise," he says.

He predicts that within the next five to ten years, all hearing aids will allow the wearer to hear and appreciate both speech and music and that the technology for cochlear implants will be sufficiently miniaturised for all of it to be contained in an invisible hearing aid placed in the ear.

But the stumbling block to all these developments is cost. Beth's operation to have the device fitted was possible only as a result of an intensive fund-raising campaign led by her mother, a community nurse. Since then, Nottingham, and a few other centres, have re-



Listening hard: Beth Bearder's cochlear implant has given her a link to the hearing world

ceived a limited amount of government funding which has allowed more than 100 devices to be fitted, in both children and adults. But even the most conservative estimates suggest that every year in Britain, at least 400 profoundly deaf children and adults could benefit. A health department cost benefit analysis is at present being carried out, and the results are expected early next year. Until then, in spite of the positive results on many children in Britain, Australia and in America, the

operation to implant the device remains, officially, "under evaluation".

Talking to Beth, on the telephone, where lip reading is impossible, suggests the benefits are real. She sounds just like any other confident five-year-old giving her first newspaper interview. But Mrs Bearder emphasises that the complete clarity and expressiveness evident in her daughter's voice has taken a great deal of hard work. Although Beth attends a normal school she still needs some extra help

from a teacher for the deaf.

Mrs Bearder is very concerned that, two years after Beth's operation, cochlear implants are not available for all the children who need them. "It is a tragedy," she says. "I know you can communicate, to some extent, by sign language, but it is not the same as being part of the hearing and speaking world, as Beth now is. Sign language is enormously isolating. People in the corner shop don't understand it; nor do the people on the Number 4 bus."

## Wash away the aches

DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD

ARE accounts in *The Times* of the spas of Hungary, and *Tatler's* report of the spas of Europe, merely the latest examples of the increasing interest in alternative medicine, or does spa therapy have a place in the armoury of the conventional practitioner? To what extent does its undoubted success in some patients depend on the patient's PGF (doctor's code for the feel good factor) engendered by TLC (tender loving care)?

Dr Jeffrey Rosenberg, a consultant rheumatologist who, unusually in Britain, has an interest in hydrotherapy, arranged a study tour of the Hungarian spas for British doctors. The doctors were selected not for any interest in alternative medicine, but rather because of an apparently traditional approach.

One of the traditionalists was Dr Michael Kessel, a successful north London family practitioner. Dr Kessel's colleagues observed him with some interest: despite surgery which had alleviated acute symptoms of a severe disc lesion, he still had constant back ache and a limp.

In Hungary, there is accommodation for 300,000 people to have spa therapy, and it is equally popular in Germany, Italy and in Austria. In Britain it went out of fashion with the decline of Malvern, Buxton, Harrogate and other centres, although modern "health farms" provide many of the facilities formerly found in spas.

The British doctors visiting Hungary would have liked to have seen more scientific data to support the alleged benefits and qualities of the different minerals and salts which come bubbling up with the thermal spring water.

The doctors found it quite possible, for instance, to believe that a bath in the strongest of briny water might be good for gynaecological skin problems, but found it hard to believe that it would



cure salpingitis, inflammation of the Fallopian tubes.


Budapest doctors take pride in the fact that the hippopotamus at the city's zoo are the most fertile in Europe, a quality attributed to the water. The British doctors, while believing that the Budapest atmosphere did much for fertility, felt that as far as humans are concerned, the relaxed, attentive atmosphere of a luxury hotel, with attendant health farm facilities, might so reduce tension that conception followed.

Whatever doubts the British doctors had about the advantages of swallowing sulphurous water — Dotheboys had a good line in brimstone — they were universally impressed by the physiotherapy.

The spas are attached to hotels which, as well as the special treatment, provide exercise regimes in their gyms, swimming pools of varying temperatures, and tennis courts and golf courses. The physiotherapy treatment rooms are equipped with state of the art electrical gadgetry, and the kitchens provide any diet recommended by doctors.

THE BRITISH doctors relied for the relief of their own particular aches and pains on simple traction, hanging either by their arms or neck collars in warm thermal baths, supplemented with some swimming. For additional muscle relaxation and refreshment, they had heat generated by steaming black mud slapped on to them by attendants before being wrapped in what, to an external serviceman, looked like an army groundsheet. Later they had massage.

As for Dr Kessel's back, after his short stay in Hungary he was free of pain for the first time in three years and his colleagues noticed that before he left he was able to stride, rather than shuffle, to his cholesterol-rich breakfast, his morning stiffness, anyway, temporarily relieved.



## Theo Angelopoulos.

## The Greek god of film-making.

'Rear Window' the international arts and culture series, this week looks at Greece's most lauded film director. 'Balkan Landscapes' The Gaze of Theo Angelopoulos, outlines the 25-year career of this influential film-maker and the controversy surrounding his latest work, set a stone's throw away from the Balkan conflict.

**'REAR WINDOW.'**  
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## Lynne Truss



### Promise not to deafen me, and I promise not to strangle you

Last autumn an Oxford man was prosecuted for strangling next door's parrot. You may remember the item in the news. The offending bird lived in a cage in the garden, the man had recorded piercing noises from it (up to 90 decibels), and finally it drove him berserk. It was a dramatic story, really, like something from a crack-up movie starring Michael Douglas. Man in specs yells, "That's it! That's done it!" breaks down fence, wrestles with door of cage, parrot backs away uncertainly, squawking. Music soars: feathers flurry; shadows struggle; and a bird ladder is kicked over in the fight. The music drops to a low pulse, signifying that the grisly deed is done. The man falls back, stunned, stares at palms of hands. Then silence. The camera pans: empty perch, rocking swing, silver bell, mirror, scattered Trill, turtle-fish, end.

That's how I saw it, anyway. Here was a man pushed beyond endurance by the constant shrieks of a noisy bird (trained by its owners to squawk "Mark", the strangler's name). And although I can't remember if he paid a terrible penalty for his crime, what I do remember is empathising strongly with his frustrations, and thinking that the urge to strangle next door's parrot is probably one of the most passionate feelings shared by the silent outraged majority in this inwardly seething, overcrowded and latently violent country. Naked and raw, it is, the common urge to break the windscreen of a car whose alarm has been wailing all night; to firebomb a house where a party never stops. Thank God they don't let us have guns.

And now we have the case of Diane Welfare, fined £12,500 last week for broadcasting Radio One to her neighbours, amid general cheers that something is finally being done. Hurrah, hurrah. If the court had also burst through the door shouting, "That's it! That's done it!" and strangled the stereo or drowned it in the bath, I think I would be literally singing with joy. I don't care that Miss Welfare can't pay the fine. I don't even care that she is a teenage mother with a rotten life. When someone blasts noise at their neighbours, it is selfish and aggressive, and it drives you wild. It gets in your face. Nowadays when new neighbours move in downstairs from me, I cut the usual cheery preliminaries and just demand straight off to see the size of their speakers. Anything larger than a cornflake packet and my life is ruined. I will have to write in restaurants and sleep in the car.

A man next door to my mother drilled and hammered for two solid years, just beyond the four-inch dividing wall. "Evidently he's fitting [warOOOUM, warOOOUM] tongue-and-groove pine panelling [whack, whack, whack] all round the living-room," yelled my parents, grown pale and jumpy within a fortnight. Six months later, he was still at it. My parents went for walks, turned up the volume on the telly, and never complained because basically they were scared. Meanwhile, by their calculations, the driller ought to have finished going once round the room, so was presumably going round again. As the months turned to years and he didn't stop, we started to shake our heads and speculate. Either this man was a lunatic, or he had accidentally panicked across the doorways, and was now trapped for ever, drilling and hammering and adding planks, in an ever-shrinking upright coffin of his own construction. This latter hypothesis pleased us considerably, as it suggested the exercise was finite. Years in the future, we decided, he would be discovered by archaeologists and transferred to a museum still in his six-foot-thick pine box, perfectly preserved in a hammering position, with nails between his teeth.

You notice how neighbours of serial killers always gasp and shake their heads. "But he was so quiet." Too little is made of this insight, in my opinion; the point is missed. "We never heard a peep." "We hardly knew he was there" — these are excellent character references, queries for praying please, please give me a quiet psychopath next time. After all, neighbours come in just two varieties: those that are no trouble at all, and those that drive you bonkers because they are insomniac rap fans with speakers the size of stationary cupboards. Given the choice between a psychopath and a rap fan as the person upstairs, you would certainly think twice before complaining about the drains.

Until it decides on a role in the world, Britain can only tinker with its defences, says Lawrence Freedman

## What sort of nation shall we be?

In the build-up to the publication of yesterday's white paper, there was much grumbling in military circles that the government's current defence policy is purely Treasury-driven. This is hardly a new situation. British defence policy has been Treasury-driven for four decades, ever since it became apparent that the country could not sustain the rearmament authorised during the Korean war. Since then there has been a continuing struggle between commitments and resources.

Periodically the pressure on spending has led to a defence review. The most significant — in 1957, 1966, 1976 and 1981 — were explicitly exercises in priorities, made necessary by economic circumstances. Some cuts would have been demanded by the Treasury in the early 1990s whatever was happening in the world, but the distinctive feature of the past three years has been the removal of the threat which had been the central focus for defence planning.

Previous reviews revolved around a standard set of questions: how serious and imminent is the Soviet threat and in what directions might it develop? How is it best contained and to what extent can we depend on nuclear deterrence? What are Nato and particularly the United States likely to do, and where might we best make our contribution? Should we concentrate on the "central front" where

the main thrust of a Warsaw Pact attack might need to be faced, or in the eastern Atlantic, where Britain's maritime traditions could be reflected?

Until the middle of 1991, it was still possible to imagine the Soviet Union reconstituting itself as a major European power, but the implosion following the failed coup means that security preoccupations in Moscow barely extend to the boundaries of what until recently was home territory.

Thus the defence of the realm is now a far easier proposition. The collapse of communism is not the only difference. When the Cold War started, we still had an empire to worry about. The empire is gone, and responsibilities for the remaining dependencies are steadily being relinquished.

However, the after-effects of decolonisation have posed some of the most perplexing defence problems of the post-war period, including Suez, Cyprus, Malaysia and Aden. Previous defence reviews came unstuck not so much in their preparations for war with the Soviet Union, as in their provision for conflicts outside Europe. The 1967 announcement that Britain would withdraw from east of Suez helped to destabilise the Gulf region in the 1970s; the 1981 review reduced the number of warships in the Falklands campaign, in which the royal navy took the lead; the initial "Options for Change" announcement by Tom King in July 1990 was promptly followed by Iraq's seizure of Kuwait and a crisis which ended with many of the forces designed for use on the "central front" seeing battle for the first time.

None of these non-European emergencies obeyed a standard pattern, but they were manageable because they could be handled by forces developed for wars between great powers. Now such wars look improbable, while the kind of conflict that followed decolonisation elsewhere is beginning to scar Europe. Post-communist Europe faces all the dangers of post-colonial uncertainty.

The defence white paper acknowledges a shift in provision towards what it less-than-evocatively calls "Defence Role Three". By this it means either serious conflicts, excluding an attack on a Nato country but which could nonetheless adversely affect European security (such as Desert Storm), or else lower intensity and longer-term operations "to support international order and humanitarian principles, most likely under United Nations auspices" (the most obvious at the moment is that in Bosnia).

The problem with using these contingencies as a basis for defence planning is not only their diversity — they can involve patrolling a ceasefire line, en-

forcing embargoes at sea, launching punitive air-strikes or taking on anything from an ill-disciplined militia to a well-organised army — but also that involvement is a matter of choice.

Whether or not Britain chooses to contribute to the resolution of such conflicts will depend on our interests, but also on whether the Americans are involved and expect us to follow their lead. Without them it may not be possible to muster sufficient forces to make an impression on a conflict. British involvement also depends on the importance we attach to the quality of our armed forces and their performance in the field, on our judgment about whether permanent membership of the Security Council carries obligations, and on Britain's self-image as a serious player on the international stage.

It is possible to conclude that as we are a geographically favoured island well away from most of the world's trouble-spots, there are few military provisions worth making, or else that a sense of international responsibility will draw us into a series of demanding tasks which will stretch us to the limits. These are far more fundamental questions than can be answered by a defence review. What we really need is a foreign policy review.

The author is professor of war studies at King's College, London.

## A ministry of dirty works

The stench from the offices of some senior members of the government is overpowering and can no longer be ignored



The attorney-general, Sir Nicholas Lyell: there is no law whatever against believing what he says

I can't do it. I have tried and tried, turning this way and that, doubled up in agony as I see the wonderful rainbow fading, and in the end I have had to admit defeat.

Our judges do not take bribes. I cannot find a single example: it is not only Mr Justice Tucker who doesn't take bribes; none of the High Court judges is awash with backhanders.

Damn, damn, damn. After all, among them they have every vice imaginable: mankind's ignorance, bad temper, deafness, denial, prejudice, obstinacy, stupidity (an amazing amount of that, considering their responsibilities), falling asleep on the Bench (records show that the average judge is asleep for 78 per cent of the time), jokes so dreadful that they can take the enamel off your teeth at 40 paces and, of course, getting everything wrong from start to finish. (But, oddly, no boozers; I haven't seen a Law Lord topple over, stewed as a prune, for many years.)

All the above was provoked by some of the more comical, not to say ludicrous, aspects of the still unfolding saga of Mr Mates and Mr Nadir, together with the supporting cast, which includes a number of figures who are not at all comical and could not be made to be comical even if you gave each of them a huge red plastic nose and a circus clown's hat, and dropped them in a barrel of white-wash. Though come to think of it, many of them have been flinging themselves into their, and the government's, own barrels of whitewash, as fast as their cover-up would take them.

Let us start with the Serious Fraud Office. Until Sir John Nott joined in on this page last Friday, with a massive and unanswerable indictment of the SFO's monstrous behaviour, it seemed that I was the only person who remembered the previous SFO scandal — identical in its dirtiness — and who could point out the stains and choke on the stench which accompanied both. This time it was Mr Mates and Mr Nadir; the previous time it was Kevin Maxwell; both times the SFO's leaders behaved in a manner that should have led immediately to arrest for contempt. Hear Sir John:

The behaviour of the SFO, and the present law and procedure relating to the pursuit of fraud, should now be investigated by an independent judge, not by the Director of Public Prosecutions or the attorney-general's office. Why? Barbara Mills, the head of the SFO when many of the alleged abuses were perpetrated, is now the DPP and the attorney-general's office includes former officers of the SFO. How can natural justice be served if these people investigate themselves?

Sir John's question was not just ignored; it was spat upon. The attorney-general, Sir Nicholas Lyell, said (well, he would, wouldn't he?): "I am satisfied that the circumstances surrounding the arrest of Mr Nadir on various occasions have been entirely normal... I am assured that publicity has never been sought by the SFO in relation to those arrests." My mind leapt immediately to that hilarious episode in the arraignment of British Airways for their "dirty tricks"

against Richard Branson: BA called in their solicitors, and solemnly directed them to go right round the entire board of directors asking each of them whether he or she had done or condoned the dirty tricks. The solicitors did as instructed, and to the immense pleasure and relief of everybody it turned out that every member of the board — every single one — was entirely innocent, which of course ended the argument entirely.

But Sir Nicholas Lyell can do much better than that. I have before, and more than once, asked if anyone knows why every attorney-general, and, a fortiori, Solicitor General, is worse than his predecessor; whatever the answer, the first post has existed since the reign of Edward I (1239-1307) and the second since that of Edward IV (1442-1483) so by now — well, you get my meaning.

Now for the benefit of any two-year-old reading this (readers older than two will, of course, know it already), I should say that apart from a few technical matters and the taking of an occasional hand in a criminal case, the job of the two Law Officers is solely to do the dirty work for the government. Oh, don't take it from me: hear David Walker, editor of the grave and austere *Oxford Companion to Law* (pp.1366). "In modern

practice both are MPs and appointed from supporters of the party in power and are expected to defend the legality of the actions of government ministers and departments..."

I pause here to listen for the cries of outrage from the Law Officers' quarters which invariably follow such reasonable statements of the obvious. Sometimes the cries go on a long time, which indicates that there is not much dirty work to be done at the moment, and sometimes the cries are hardly more than a single yelp, which of course means that there is much dirty work on hand and it needs immediate attention.

The Law Officers, of course, say that I am traducing them in saying that they take their decisions entirely by themselves and are in no way swayed by the exigencies of the government of which

they are an integral part. Please believe and remember what I now say: *There is no law, criminal or civil — absolutely none — that makes it illegal or tortious to believe what the Law Officers say; anyone who wishes to believe them has a complete and unassailable right to do so.*

Well, then. When the stench of government cheating in the Matrix Churchill stews had become so retching-making that it would shortly have had to be classified as a health hazard, Sir Nicholas was whistled up to spray the most powerful carbolic on it; his role was to explain away the cover-up. Thirteen inches — thirteen — of this newspaper's letters page were wasted on his creepy-crawly evasions, when all he had to do was to say that, unfortunately, the cover-up hadn't worked, and then go home. There had been the usual legal obfuscation, this time about "public interest immunity certificates"; these were signed by the whole gang (Kenneth Clarke, Tristan Carew-Jones, Malcolm Rifkind and Michael Heseltine). Their statements claimed that "the national interest would be imperilled if the documents were published"; the truth, being that they or their departments would be fingered. Their only chance of

evading exposure was to persuade the judge, who in these matters has the final say, to believe that the nation would be in peril if the rogues were exposed. The judge, Mr Justice Smedley (try bribing him!) took one look at the cover-up and tore its lid off; reeling back at the stench, he allowed almost all of the incriminating matter to see the light. Whereupon Sir Nicholas was heard arguing, in the well-known courtroom plea, "That in the first place, my lord, there was no missile; in the second place, my lord, I didn't throw it; in the third place, my lord, it didn't hit him; in the fourth place, my lord, it didn't hurt him much, and in the last place, my lord, I'm very sorry and I won't do it again."

But it was touch and go. A slightly more lax judge, or perhaps one with more friends in government than is healthy, or one who couldn't see the enormous importance of this business — and the cover-up might have won the day for wickedness, while I wouldn't be surprised if Sir Nicholas was still, believing that all was as it should be. You jib at the word wickedness, do you? Let me remind you that if the crime had been successful, men who were working for the British government would have gone to prison in Britain.

So will Sir Nicholas go? Of course he won't. This is the man who, claiming that the SFO has done nothing even slightly wrong, found that a forged incriminating letter was circulating, and he — perhaps in a panic for an explanation — could only say that it was an April Fool's joke. Before he could think of a better explanation another such fake came to light: I waited to hear that it was a Christmas decoration.

I am getting sick of this government and the Tory party alike. Crooks pay the bills, but however many crooks stump up, the party is £19 million in the red, presumably, other crooks are stealing the stolen money. Every defeat is hailed as a tremendous success; every EC ordinance we defy in the front we surrender round the back, our leaders being too feeble to do anything about it and too cowardly to let the people choose; every reshuffle shows the exhaustion and incapability of what remains; the level of public deceit is higher than I have ever known it. Every morning I wake and for a moment think it was a dream that they made Norman Fowler party chairman; then I become fully awake and it is true.

I hope the forthcoming by-election is lost. I hope every seat in every Tory by-election is lost. It would be wrong to hope that a plane-load of Tories would crash, but I can at least pray that a couple of dozen of the worst crooks in the Commons are obliged to resign. Failing that, I hope that even more go bankrupt because of the Lloyd's debacle.

The thought of a Labour government brings me out in hives. But the stench of trickery, cowardice, incompetence and all-round rottenness does not come from the Opposition. It comes from the Tories, and it will not go away until they do.

## Groupies gather

DESPITE having presided over one of the most glamorous of all G7 summits in 1991, John Major is determined that this week's Tokyo gathering will be the last extravagant jamboree. He wants to turn the clock back to the era of Chateau Rambouillet, near Paris, which hosted the first world economic summit in November 1978, when the group of six were the United States, Germany, France, Japan, Britain and Italy.

This week, up to 5,000 press and television reporters will crowd into Tokyo, whereas on that occasion only a couple of hundred journalists made the trip to France.

Lord Healey, who went to Rambouillet as Chancellor, says it was all a long way from the goings-on of today. "It was more informal, more private and more constructive. Summits have been a waste of time since 1978. The heads of government at Rambouillet had nearly all known each other as finance ministers. There were friendships between leaders

such as Helmut Schmidt and Giscard d'Estaing." Personal relationships, says Healey, were very important. "The private conversations were very worthwhile." Now he says the problem is that world leaders either don't know who their counterparts are, or if they do, find that they face re-election. "No one knows anyone anymore, or they are on the way out."

### Panic response

The effects of Michael Cassidy's "ring of plastic" around the City of London may become evident today, as the Square Mile belatedly returns to work after its extended sporting hiatus. But already some of London's leading lights are asking whether Cassidy, chairman of the corporation's policy and resources committee, has over-reacted again.

In the 1980s, as chairman of the City's planning committee, Cassidy gave the go-ahead for millions of square feet of City office space to be redeveloped

to counter the threat from Docklands schemes such as Canary Wharf.

Margaret Hodge, formerly leader of Islington Council and now a consultant with Price Waterhouse, says: "Michael Cassidy is panicking. He panicked over Docklands when he was chairman of the planning committee. I don't think he can sustain this action."

This is a view backed by heritage watchdogs. Marcus Binney, president of SAVE and *The Times's* architecture correspondent, says: "People who work in the City greatly lament the way the traditional character has been smashed by large developments. That is Cassidy's fault."

Cassidy is robust in the face of such criticism. "I think it has gone very well so far. But it is the corporation's policy and I am only the messenger."

● A motion being debated by the Transport and General Workers' Union conference in Bournemouth this week has got its wires crossed. "This conference," the motion thunders, "condemns all parliamentary



## DIARY

violence in Northern Ireland." Parliamentary? A late correction in the programme tries to clear the confusion. "In the first line of motion Z3, on page 83, submitted by branch 11/9, the word parliamentary should read paramilitary."

### Collected V-signs

PRIVATE letters written by Sir Winston Churchill in the dark days of the Battle of Britain are to be published for the first time. Material is being gathered by Winston Churchill's Britain at War Museum in Tooley Street, London.

The museum, which opened in October, is a social history of the home front — Dad's Army, the land girls and evacuation — under Churchill's leadership. Typical of the material the museum is seeking is



the score of a song which was written for and sent to Churchill by a amateur composer during the war. The composer's daughter has handed it over — together with Churchill's acknowledgement.

Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill, a cousin and museum

chairman, says: "Throughout Britain there are many whose lives were touched by him, perhaps in a close, personal way. I would like to place them on record for posterity."

THE much-delayed first night of *Sunset Boulevard*, now fixed for next Monday, has a competitor. It coincides with a special performance of *City of Angels*, the established West End musical hit.

The *City of Angels* company claim to have fixed their extra show, to raise money for Aids victims, well before the *Sunset Boulevard* date was set. Company manager Trevor Williamson says: "It seemed a good day. It gives the cast a chance to rest on Sunday before doing the extra show on Monday. There was no intention of sneaking their glory."

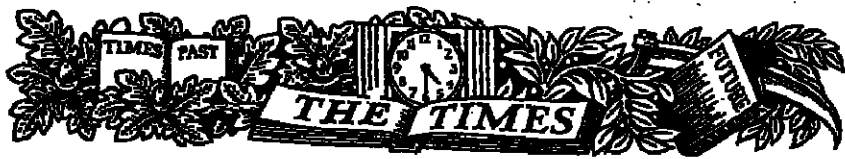
Fortunately for celebrities who feel obliged to attend both West End first nights and Aids events, there is a solution. Go to both. *Sunset Boulevard* starts at the Adelphi at 7pm, curtain-up for *City of Angels* at the Prince of Wales is not until 11.45. Quite a night.



### Still first for service

In 1991 Stefani Graf chose a revealing red lace evening dress (right) by Antony Price for the traditional post-Wimbledon dinner at the Savoy Hotel. In 1992 she graced the dinner with a low-cut silk creation (left) by David Fielden, with white waist band and white shoes. So what would it have been in 1993, had she not been laid low by a stomach bug? Harvey Nichols, the Knightsbridge store which opened especially for the women's champion and the partners of some of the leading men players on Sunday afternoon, isn't saying. A spokeswoman says: "We always extend the service to celebrities when they're in town. Stefani Graf brought evening wear but I cannot give any details. A number of key ladies, who accompanied Wimbledon players, also came in at the weekend." Among them, apparently, was Delaina Muleahy, Pete Sampras's girlfriend, who took Graf's place for the first dance. Game, set and wait to Sampras.





## FLEXIBLE DEFENCE

Mr Rifkind's plans demand sceptical examination

Three years after Tom King reduced military manpower by a quarter and cut defence spending by 12 per cent in *Options for Change*, Malcolm Rifkind's announcement of further cuts of more than £1 billion invites careful scrutiny. Mr King's watchwords were flexibility, greater mobility, and better equipped although smaller forces. The need, soon afterwards, to cannibalise British forces in Germany to equip Operation Granby in the Gulf war made his point forcefully. Now Mr Rifkind is scrapping four new submarines, five surface ships and another Tornado F3 squadron. Among other cuts, the Royal Navy will lose nine further mine counter-measure vessels.

Mr Rifkind has done his best to explain why, despite Tom King's promise of no further reductions, he is again proposing such a radical re-ordering of Britain's defence. The white paper goes further than ever before in breaking down costs, apportioning the ships, tank regiments, aircraft, infantry battalions and other vital force elements needed for different military tasks, and attempting to match resources and capability to every defence commitment.

Such transparency in a notoriously opaque department of state is unusual and welcome, and is in keeping with John Major's promise of more open government. Transparency is also intended to convince the Treasury that there is no more to be cashed from the peace dividend and Tory sceptics that Britain's vital interests will still be adequately protected.

One of the best aspects of the white paper is its assertion that distinctions between "in" and "out of" the Nato area are no longer relevant for defence planning, and the acknowledgement that "low intensity" operations — as in Bosnia — require well-trained troops with sophisticated equipment. The best overall argument that Mr Rifkind makes for his review is the simplest: things change. His weakest ground is the argument that without massive Treasury pressure his cuts would have been much less radical.

In the three years since his predecessor's review, the threat to Britain and its allies has

been transformed. The Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact have ceased to exist. There remains a residual threat from Russia, a large, unstable power whose attachment to democracy is shallow and could be superseded by a new expansionist authoritarianism. And in Douglas Hurd's "new world disorder", the threat from rogue powers equipped with weapons of mass destruction has increased. The 50 military tasks the white paper identifies reflect a world even less predictable than three years ago.

Defence is inordinately expensive, and with the end of the Cold War, such spending must compete with other urgent demands. Britain will still spend as much on defence as France or Germany; per capita, its defence budget will remain among the highest in Nato. If the four diesel submarines are not needed to defend sealanes in the Atlantic, they must be sold or scrapped, however wasteful it appears to eliminate new vessels. But Mr Rifkind's reprieve of four regiments, increasing the total number of troops to 119,000 from the planned 116,000, may not be an adequate response to increased instability on the European continent. Small wars could make large demands on Britain's ability to assign troops to peace-keeping or peace enforcement operations.

Mr Rifkind's response is that although the fighting in Bosnia or Somalia is more visible and urgent than any past Soviet threat, the defence of international peace and security has to be judged against the template of Britain's vital interests. A government that allowed its forces to be overstretched in the defence of Britain and its remaining responsibilities would be guilty of extreme negligence. Yet this begs the main question that must be asked of the review: whether it would have looked the same had the Treasury not insisted on its £1,000 million.

Mr Rifkind maintains that full-scale defence reviews are an antiquated way of responding to rapidly changing circumstances. He must persuade the nation that this year-by-year response will still guarantee British defence in years to come, and that forces can, if necessary, be built up again should the need arise.

## MOTHERS AND FATHERS

Ministers are right to lead debate on family policy

One of the fastest growing ideas of the past 30 years has been the belief that no chosen lifestyle is inherently superior or inferior to any other. It has become an axiom that there should be the fewest possible limitations on the individual's happiness and rights — including rights both to have children, and to get divorced.

Politicians, of course, are only partly responsible for these trends. Politicians, it may be said, are thus only partly responsible for clearing up the mess. But since for so long British leaders have taken virtually no responsibility in this regard, it is good at last to see some Conservative ministers choosing confrontation rather than silence.

There is now a very large body of American and British data to demonstrate the disastrous effects of rearing children without fathers. In the US, more than 70 per cent of all juveniles in state reform institutions are from fatherless homes. Studies suggest that the most damaging lack in lone-parent families is the example of two adults engaging in negotiation and concession, a model of behaviour that may be sometimes irreplaceable in a child's development. Easier divorce, while improving the happiness of adults, can thus reduce children's experience of vital give-and-take.

For a brief period during Lady Thatcher's years in office there was active talk in Downing Street about "family values". Some of it was cheer-leading rhetoric. Some was genuine intellectual debate about how traditional families were the cauldron of individualism, the protective walls behind which children could grow up as Tory subversives against the too powerful state. Little in practice was done. Rapid reversal of the political stance that reinforced lone-parent families was politically unthinkable. Slow change seemed politically fruitless. During

the Major years the issue seemed to die altogether — until now.

Any democratic government can have only a slow and limited influence on social trends or shifts in public morality. In his discussion of single parents, the social secretary, Peter Lilley, wisely acknowledged this. But John Redwood, the Welsh secretary, has been bolder. John Gummer, the environment secretary, has recently launched an enquiry into apparent discrimination against two-parent families in the allocation of council homes. Yesterday, Tom Sackville, the junior health minister, attacked the feminist movement for the rise of single parenthood.

These are still dangerous paths. If ministers wish to see a firmer government commitment to discouraging the enormous growth of single parenthood, they must advocate this without threatening to worsen the plight of existing lone parents and their children. A search for public spending cuts is not the best backdrop to the debate. But the debate is needed none the less.

One issue is the question of what immediate action, if any, governments can take. Training adolescent boys in "parenting", in the hope that fewer young girls will be left to raise babies alone, might have a positive effect in some cases. So may suggestions of future changes to benefits and housing entitlements. But moral responsibility is not a skill that may be taught. The removal of the stigmas on divorce and unmarried motherhood has removed the moral pressure on men to support their children. More liberty for some has meant less liberty for others. Liberal legislation of the 1960s did not escape the iron laws of action and reaction. If there is to be a readjustment in the 1990s, the preparation had better begin here.

## SEVEN DIVIDED MEN

Mr Clarke will be little the wiser from his reading yesterday

When the Treasury first appointed its panel of seven independent advisers, the optimists, themselves included, hoped that the Chancellor would be exposed to a wide range of independent economic views which might protect him from officially inspired follies like fanatical commitment to the ERM. Furthermore, the "Seven Wise Men", whose number included some notable mavericks, might help to break a tradition of many decades by expressing controversial economic views on official Treasury letterhead.

Cynics predicted, by contrast, that the Seven Wise Men would make no impression on either the Chancellor or the Treasury's internal operations. The panel had been carefully chosen to cover a range of self-cancelling views: the panelists, it was said, would soon succumb to the occupational vice of all academics and most economists, that of fighting each other rather than influencing events. Soon the panel would be just another seminar on theoretical economics, with less influence on Treasury policy than the Balliol senior common room.

Two reports and four months later, the

Although the new Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, is more personally open to outsiders than his predecessor, yesterday's individual submissions show little sign of giving him much help. There are seven expositions of economic theory veering off in widely divergent directions. Even the forecasts presented to the Chancellor are more or less useless, since each of the Wise Men chooses his own assumptions about the monetary, fiscal and exchange rate policies — without making it clear whether these are recommendations to the Chancellor or predictions about what the Treasury might do.

There are a few useful elements of agreement. The report says that interest rates should be cut to sustain recovery, either if fiscal policy were tightened, or if sterling rose sharply against other currencies. The Wise Men also apparently agreed that it was "essential" for public sector borrowing to be cut. Sadly for the reformers, this cogent introduction was drafted not by the wise men but by Treasury officials. Whitehall's mandarins, long schooled in making the best out of a series of

## The choice of experiencing childbirth without pain

From Mrs Catriona C. Muir

Sir, Mary Ann Sieghart ("The worst pain I can imagine", July 1) states that "women have fought so hard against the medical establishment to have the right to suffer pain. You might have thought they would have fought for the right to a pain-free enjoyable birth".

I am a student midwife. Women, mothers and midwives have fought hard to give women freedom of choice in the care they receive and control of their childbirth experience. Maternity care should be woman-centred, with the woman elevated to a position of importance rather than of passive recipient.

Childbirth is a unique experience. Proper ante-natal preparation, enthusiastic encouragement from medical and midwifery staff and non-judgmental, accurate information of what is available all assist the labouring woman to achieve the labour which she feels is right for her.

Yours truly,  
CATRIONA C. MUIR,  
18 Ravenscroft Park,  
Barnet, Hertfordshire,  
July 1.

From Dr Anna-Maria Rollin

Sir, The article by Mary Ann Sieghart draws welcome attention to the fact that "normal" labour can be a very painful and perhaps even unedifying experience. Until the mid-19th century, pain, suffering and even death were the expected lot of mothers and infants.

Improved obstetric techniques, including asepsis, together with developments in anaesthesia and pain re-

lief, have changed the situation radically. Obstetric accidents are now rare and therefore profoundly shocking. Given this expectation of safety, the pendulum appears to be swinging back. We yearn for the good old days when giving birth was a cosy domestic event, with the family gathered round and a pot of water bubbling merrily on the stove.

The NHS management executive has recently published "A study of midwife and GP-led maternity units", which devotes, quite rightly, a large amount of space to maternal choice. It assumes that this will be exercised largely in favour of small, local, homely units. There appears to be inadequate emphasis on the limitations of such units, which may not have specialist obstetricians, anaesthetists and paediatricians on site. On the rare occasions when things go wrong, they might be unable to provide the best possible care.

The current, "politically correct", view is that natural labour should be an ecstatic and blissful experience. Your article emphasises that, on the contrary, for many women it hurts like hell.

Yours faithfully,  
ANNA-MARIA ROLLIN  
(Consultant anaesthetist),  
The Association of Anaesthetists  
of Great Britain and Ireland,  
9 Bedford Square, WCI,  
July 2.

From Mrs Esther Culpin

Sir, To give birth in the best possible conditions a woman needs only two things: privacy and the removal of anything that would distract her from

the task in hand. Partners, yoga, aromatherapy and Mozart have their place, but not in the birth room. Natural childbirth does not promise pain-free labour, but it is the forerunner of natural feeding and natural health.

After three traumatic childbirth experiences, in which I also attempted to cope without drugs, I might have been inclined to share Mary Ann Sieghart's disillusion. But having recently given birth to my fourth child at home, attended but otherwise left alone during a perfectly normal but comparatively rare breech delivery, it seems to me that she has yet to experience a truly natural childbirth.

Yours faithfully,  
ESTHER CULPIN  
36 Queenswood Drive,  
Hampton Dene, Hereford.

From Mrs Anne Dixon

Sir, There is so much emphasis on natural childbirth nowadays that for a new mother to admit she cannot cope with the intense pain usually experienced, and therefore needs to resort to some form of pain relief during labour, often gives her a sense of failure when she should be feeling a great sense of achievement and happiness.

Surely the most important consideration in labour must be the safe delivery of the baby, however that is to be achieved. As one very sensible midwife said to me during the birth of my first child, "no one is going to give you a medal because it hurts".

Yours faithfully,  
ANNE DIXON,  
Charity Farm, Hungerdown Lane,  
Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex.

London Environmental Economic Centre have produced authoritative reports pointing out that bans or boycotts may well be counter-productive in producing sustainable forest management.

The call for a government ban on imports of mahogany would also be in direct opposition to UK government policy. Britain signed the United Nations principles on forestry at the Earth summit in 1992. Principle 14 specifically commits governments to avoid or remove bans or boycotts.

Yours faithfully,  
P. G. HARRIS,  
Director General,  
The Timber Trade Federation,  
Clareville House,  
26-27 Oxendon Street, SW1,  
June 29.

## Wind of change

From Mr Simon Roberts

Sir, It is a pity that your report on our survey of new proposals for wind power ("Opposition to wind farm plans grows", June 25, early editions) did not include the conclusions of a new government study of the attitudes of local people to wind farms. This would have put in context the reported complaints of certain landscape-preservation groups that wind farms represent a serious and unwelcome visual intrusion.

The government study reveals that wind power becomes popular with its host communities. Before the wind farm at Delabole, Cornwall, was constructed, half the local residents thought wind power spoilt the scenery. Now that it has been running for

a year, only a quarter of them still think so. Moreover, the study uncovered a significant growth in active local support for the wind farm.

Friends of the Earth supports sensitively planned wind developments because Britain needs to increase the proportion of its energy produced from non-polluting sources.

We also suggest that statutory bodies such as the Countryside Commission take more time to ask local people their views before they make sweeping negative remarks about the aesthetics of wind power.

Yours faithfully,  
SIMON ROBERTS  
(Senior energy campaigner),  
Friends of the Earth,  
26-28 Underwood Street, N1,  
June 25.

## Units of justice

From Mr John N. Spencer

Sir, Mr J. A. Davis (letter, June 29) is unfair when he exonerates Parliament and criticises the Magistrates' Association over the unit fines system. Parliament got it wrong by vastly widening the gap between rich and poor offenders of £3-£25 per unit in the pilot scheme to £4-£100 when the scheme was implemented, and by not making proper provision for those profiting from crime.

The association tried conscientiously but unsuccessfully to put the scheme into operation, although individual magistrates certainly made mistakes, which had to be put right on appeal.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN SPENCER,  
Field End, Rimpington,  
Yeovil, Somerset,  
June 30.

## Interests of justice

From Mr Clifford Tibber

Sir, Man charged with offence in connection with a stolen tax disc. Man in receipt of income support (can't afford a lawyer) seeks advice: guilty or not guilty, magistrates' court or crown court? All important matters. Careful consideration needed.

Legal aid refused because "it does not appear desirable to make an order in the interests of justice". Renewed application to magistrates refused for same reason.

Can someone define "interests of justice"?  
Yours sincerely,  
CLIFFORD TIBBER,  
Cordell Tibber & Co  
(Solicitors),  
640 High Road,  
North Finchley, N12,  
July 1.

## Better armed

From Captain Hugh Leach

Sir, I could recommend a replacement for the SA80 combat rifle, which proved so unreliable to the British Army during the Gulf war (report, June 29). Engaged in one of those Arabian campaigns in the early 1960s, and disarming the newly armed weapon the army provided, I exchanged it for a 303 Lee Metford, which I had taken off a rebel tribesman.

Introduced as the standard personal weapon for the Boer war, and having a barrel 2in longer than the Lee Enfield, which replaced it during the two world wars, it proved indestructible and innately accurate.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH LEACH,  
Canon Bridge House,  
Nr Madley, Herefordshire,  
June 30.

## Booker judgments

From Mr George Steiner

Sir, Martyn Goff (Diary, June 28) is talking discourteous nonsense about John Berger's *G*. A flawed but subtle and original novel, it towered over rival entries for the 1972 Booker Prize. It has been reissued as a modern classic.

As it happens, I am the sole survivor of that year's jury and wonder whether any subsequent Booker judges quite match my two colleagues: Elizabeth Bowen and Cyril Connolly.

But our choice belongs to a period in which the Booker Prize was not yet an extension of commercial hype, often transparently packaged.

Faithfully yours,  
GEORGE STEINER,  
Churchill College, Cambridge.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be forwarded to 071-782 5066.

## Relief sought for debt-ridden Africa

From Mr David Howell, MP for Guildford (Conservative) and others

Sir, As members of the Africa caucus, a newly formed all-party group of MPs, we believe Wednesday's G7 summit in Tokyo provides a significant opportunity to reduce Africa's unsustainable debt burden. G7 leaders must seize this opportunity.

A lethal cocktail of plummeting commodity prices, soaring interest rates and domestic economic mismanagement has caused Africa's debt burden to spiral beyond control. A quarter of all exports, the equivalent of \$10 billion a year, is drained out of the region just to service this debt. This haemorrhaging of scarce resources means that Africa spends four times more on debt repayments than it spends on health care.

Since 1980 Africa's debt burden has trebled to \$183 billion, the equivalent of 109 per cent of the region's gross national product. In Zambia, every man, woman and child owes foreign creditors twice the national average wage. The sad fact is that Africa now owes more than it earns.

Since the G7 first acknowledged the urgency of Africa's debt burden in 1987 and agreed measures to tackle it, the debt has increased by \$30 billion. Measures agreed by previous G7 summits have only reduced the gap between what countries are scheduled to pay and what they are able to pay.

We have written to all the G7 leaders asking them to adopt the full Trinidad terms on debt relief, reducing debt stock by two-thirds for the most indebted low-income countries. In Russia has been a key ingredient in its transition. That same support is needed for Africa's emerging democracies if these new opportunities for recovery are to survive.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID HOWELL,  
SIMON HUGHES,  
JIM LESTER,  
MICHAEL MEACHER,  
DAVID STEEL,  
MIKE WATSON,  
House of Commons,  
July 5.

## Manchester's year

From the Chairman of the Bar

Sir, As to Manchester's year, 1993 — the solicitor High Court judge, the Law Society president, first Premier League champions, the British Association for Sport and Law, and the Bar chairman (letters, June 30, July 1) — we must add the chair of All-England Young Solicitors, Miss Geraldine McCool.

But it was always thus. The old saying is: "What Manchester thinks today, the rest of the world thinks tomorrow." I have a T-shirt to that effect but it is not visible when I appear in court.

Yours faithfully,  
J. J. ROWE,  
Chairman of the Bar,  
3 Bedford Row, WCI,  
July 1.

## Seasonal errors

From Mr Roderick MacLean

Sir, I sympathise with Mrs Gill Baron, who found putting out the summer garden seats provoked rain and buying a snow shovel encouraged the onset of mild weather (letters, June 25, July 1).

In the 1960s in Malaysia I rode a scooter for pleasure, though this had its limitations, because whenever I went for a spin rain would fall from a previously blue sky. I even thought of forming a company to exploit its rain-making possibilities in competition with certain local Malays who could be hired to hold off or bring on rain as appropriate.

When I finally retired from the East, I optimistically brought back a Japanese-made box fan, normally now stored away as semi-redundant. However, bringing it out can immediately quell any tentative heat wave. Mrs Baron would find an equally reliable method is to put away pullovers etc as "not wanted until autumn".

Yours sincerely,  
RODERICK MACLEAN,  
4/8 Belhaven Place,  
Morningside, Edinburgh 10,  
July 1.

## From the Reverend W. Roy Large

Sir, I should be grateful if Mrs Baron would simply rush out and buy an umbrella.

Yours faithfully,  
W. ROY LARGE,  
24 Mallory Road,  
Bishop's Tachbrook,  
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

## Added value

From Mr Ian Samuel

Sir, In discussing the high cost of college balls (leading article, June 29), you record that the £130 double ticket includes, among other delights, "concubinage". Surely they could make a saving there in my day we brought our own.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN SAMUEL,  
The Laundry House, Handcross,  
Haywards Heath, Sussex,  
June 29.

member HSBC group

















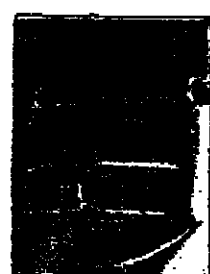
## SMALL BUSINESS 31

Café tries a taste of wine importing



## ARTS 37-39

Dublin elegiac: Brian Friel's latest play reviewed



## SPORT 40-44

Thorpe closes in on century for England

TELEVISION AND RADIO  
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# THE TIMES 2

TUESDAY JULY 6 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR  
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS  
TODAY

COURT ORDER



Mr Justice Saville set out the timetable for legal actions by Lloyd's names and said he is looking for specialist judges for the cases  
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SUMMIT TALK

This week's G7 summit in Tokyo is expected to concentrate on aspects of economic policy such as economic growth and unemployment  
Page 27

DROPPING



Scottish & Newcastle reported its first fall in profits for over a decade, hurt by falling beer sales and a redundancy scheme  
Page 25, Times 27

LIGHT OF INDIA

National Power is to spend £105 million on power plants in the US and has reached agreement to build a coal-fired station in Eastern India  
Page 26

THE POUND

US \$ 1.5115 (+0.0022)  
German mark 2.5635 (+0.0057)  
Exchange index 81.3 (+0.2)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 2838.5 (-19.2)  
Dow Jones 5958.5 (-19.2)  
Nikkei Avg 19623.06 (+1.50)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%  
3-month Interbank 5.5-5.75%  
US Federal Funds 3.5%  
3-month Treasury Bills 2.85-2.88%  
Long Bond 6.67%

CURRENCIES

New York: London 1.5115  
£/\$ 1.5075  
£/DM 1.8560  
£/Sfr 1.5110  
£/Yen 164.91  
£/SDR 1.0820  
£/ECU 1.3061  
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing (5):  
AM 367.25 PM 367.60  
Close 367.60-368.10  
New York:  
Comex 366.45-368.95

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 141.1 (May 1.3%)  
\* Denotes Friday's close

## Protest at Bank on BCCI anniversary

By PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

FORMER employees and creditors of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International gathered outside the Bank of England yesterday in a protest about their treatment since the closure.

The protesters, led by Keith Vaz, the Labour MP for Leicester East who has championed their cause, tried to present a petition to Eddie George, the new governor at 1pm yesterday, to coincide with the time the Bank closed BCCI two years ago. The protesters were initially refused entry but Mr Vaz and two others were later allowed to enter the Bank and hand the petition to officials.

The petition called on the Bank for compensation for former staff and creditors alleging it had been negligent. Qaiser Malik of the BCCI Campaign Committee asked why the Bank had not opposed a proposed \$1.7 billion compensation agreement worked out between Touche Ross, the liquidators, and the majority

shareholder, the Abu Dhabi authorities. The Luxembourg regulatory authority, IML, has opposed the plan.

Those at the protest meeting yesterday called for the appointment of an independent commission.

Depositors in the UK have not fared as well as some of their counterparts overseas. Of the 30,000 depositors acknowledged by the liquidators, 14,500 depositors have received compensation of 75 per cent of their deposits, up to a maximum of £15,000, from the Bank.

In Hong Kong 30,000 small depositors, those with less than HK\$100,000 (£8,560) were paid in full and 5,000 depositors with more than that amount received two dividends totalling 51 per cent of their deposits from the liquidator, Peter Etches of KPMG Peat Marwick.

Mr Etches said he hoped to pay another dividend this year.



Victim support: Keith Vaz MP leads BCCI depositors who handed in a petition during their anniversary protest at the Bank of England yesterday

## Wise Men spell out options for rate cut

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE British recovery is patchy and its pace uncertain but inflationary pressures remain subdued, giving the Chancellor of the Exchequer scope to lower interest rates again if he believes growth needs an additional push.

In their second report (the first presented to Kenneth Clarke), the Seven Wise Men of the Treasury's independent forecasting panel were more optimistic than they were in February on inflation and surer that some kind of recovery is under way. However, they forecast a "slow and patchy recovery" with growth held back by the downturn in continental Europe.

The Building Employers Confederation said yesterday that, in its sector, output was still falling after four successive years of decline. It said there was "no prospect" of any sustained recovery in the next 12 months because of a lack of consumer confidence caused partly by worry about impending tax increases and fear of unemployment.

A broad consensus now appears to have solidified in the City and economic community that Mr Clarke should raise taxes in the Budget and cut interest rates further. In the short term, this would help tackle the public sector deficit and preserve fragile recovery. In the medium-term, it would rebalance the economy away from an overdependence on consumer spending and towards investment, manufacturing and exports.

Opinion among the Wise Men on interest rates has shifted since February with only one arguing unconditionally for rate cuts. The others advocate further cuts if any of these conditions emerge: marked strength in sterling, a faltering recovery or as part of fiscal tightening in the budget. This reflects greater opti-

■ A "slow and patchy" recovery gives Chancellor Kenneth Clarke scope for a further small cut in interest rates, if he follows the advice of his Seven Wise Men

mism on growth. In February, the consensus was 1.1 per cent growth this year and 2.7 per cent in 1994. The latest report has an average forecast of 1.6 per cent growth this year, although slightly lower in 1994, with 2.6 per cent growth, reflecting tax rises announced in the March budget.

The Treasury's budget forecast for growth this year was 1.25 per cent but Mr Clarke is likely to revise that upwards in the unified budget. This may give him some less alarming projections for the public sector borrowing requirement and, arguably, a let-out from raising taxes.

The Wise Men are much

more optimistic on inflation. In February, their average prediction for underlying inflation was 3.9 per cent at the end of this year and 3.5 per cent at the end of 1994. Now inflation is expected to stand at 3.3 per cent in both the final quarters of 1993 and 1994.

Their advice on fiscal policy has still not reached consensus but four of the seven believe the Chancellor should tighten further in the budget; two argue that no further tightening is needed and one believes huge tax increases may be needed in the future to divert resources to industry.

The latest economic data yesterday tended to alleviate

fears that the recovery had petered out in May, but also reinforced the view that recovery is anaemic. Narrow money supply, M0, whose fall of 1.1 per cent in May provided such a scare, rose 0.3 per cent in June, taking its annual rate back to 4.4 per cent from 3.3 per cent. However, Michael Saunders, chief UK economist at Salomon Brothers, pointed out that the three-month annual growth rate actually fell 1.5 per cent in June.

He said: "This is most unusual and suggests that economic activity in the second quarter going to be much weaker than the first three months of the year."

Figures for consumer lending in May showed net borrowing up by £118 million, weaker than strong figures in March and April.

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Builders' recession, page 24

## Bairstow goes in shake-up at Queens Moat Houses

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

JOHN Bairstow, the man behind the success of Queens Moat Houses during the 1980s, has agreed to pay the price of the hotel group's financial collapse this year, and stand down as chairman once a replacement can be found.

But other board members, including David Howell, a non-executive director and a former secretary of state, are staying, to the fury of shareholders, who could end up with nothing after the financial restructuring now being attempted with the group's bankers.

Mr Bairstow is stepping down from executive duties with immediate effect and will have no further day-to-day involvement with Queens Moat, Andrew Coppel, who was yesterday appointed chief executive, said.

Mr Coppel, who has been acting as a consultant on behalf of the banks, said Mr Bairstow had not asked for any compensation for loss of

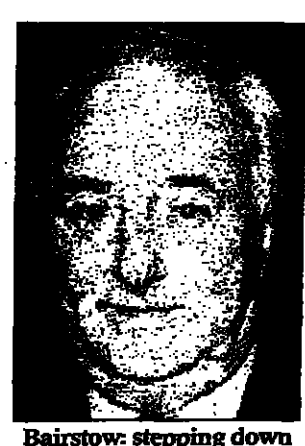
office, and if any future request was received the new board would take advice on the matter.

A total of nine directors are losing their places on the board, although three will continue to be responsible for running the businesses in Britain, Germany and Holland. None had received pay-offs, Mr Coppel said.

"Compensation is not an issue," he added. But four remain as directors. They are Mr Howell, on the board since 1989, and another non-executive, John Gale, who had an "invaluable contribution" to make in the future, Mr Coppel said. Also remaining are John Williams, in charge of the property side, and Gerald Bell, who remains responsible for the hotels division.

Queens Moat shares were suspended in March. New auditors are currently examining the group's financial affairs, including the 1992 accounts.

Some City observers believe that the value of the group's assets may not exceed its £1.2 billion of debt, forcing shareholders to sanction a highly dilutive debt-for-equity swap with the banks. Mr Coppel refused to comment but added: "I wouldn't have joined if I didn't believe that the company will be successfully restructured and restored to health."



Bairstow: stepping down

## More wisdom, but no more insight

Is the market trying to give a word to the wise? The Chancellor's Seven Wise Men reported yesterday, and so did *The Guardian's* new team of seven wise women. All but one of them said "Steady as she goes". The recovery is secure, you might conclude. Yet the equity market continues its retreat from recent highs, while gilts, near a 20-year high, withstand a hail of new issues. Either the market is following Wall Street, or it is responding to much the same set of facts. The leaders of UK industry have their answer: the recovery is faltering.

There is every reason why it should. Europe is drifting into recession at a pace that is demoralising even the recently victorious French government. The US economy continues to stutter. The reason is simple: President Clinton is threatening higher taxes. And so, of course, is our own new Chancellor. This parallel seems to have escaped 13 of the sages, who all but Patrick

Minford talk of cutting interest rates if the Chancellor raises taxes. The threat has done the job. (Regular readers will notice this is a repetition; but as a former editor of mine liked to say, if a thing is worth saying, it is worth saying twice.)

The conclusion is clear: the time to start cutting interest rates is not when the Chancellor carries out his threats in November, nor when sterling rises into non-competitive territory, nor when the economy has actually drifted back into recession. It is now. Our talkative new Governor, whose whole life experience is inside Threadneedle Street, says that the current rate is not high in relation to underlying inflation.

This view would no doubt be endorsed by investors in Treasury bills. It is irrelevant to those who have to borrow from real banks in the real world, and sell the stocks they are financing in a grimly resistant market. The Federal Reserve has from the start understood



ANTHONY HARRIS

the difference between the rates it administers and the rates borrowers have to pay; even the Bundesbank seems to be hearing the distress signals. Only the Bank of England, conditioned by years of struggle against rate-cutting Chancellors, seems occupationally deaf, while Kenneth Clarke is temporarily dumb. Given the nonsense he has already talked (politely denounced by the wise women), that may be good news.

The other good news is equally inaudible: it is possible, though not yet quite certain, that the unofficial and largely unmentioned banking squeeze is about to be reversed (the

analysis that follows is stolen unashamedly from IBCA, the London bank rating agency). This does not mean a quiet resumption of easy lending, or even a near-term increase in bank dividends, which are woefully under-covered; but it could still be good news for the whole economy. "When we were making a lot of money, we were accused of being greedy and rapacious. Now that we are losing money, we are accused of being stupid and incompetent, and also greedy and rapacious," a clearing banker complained recently; and it would be hard to put it better.

The good news from IBCA is that the stupidity and incompetence is now under control. Costs have at last been cut in good earnest. Proper risk analysis and credit scoring methods are now in place. The rapid fall in commercial bankruptcies, nearly all of them triggered by nervous bank manage-

ers, looks like the first fruit of these reforms: reason rather than panic now inspires these decisions.

The effects on reported bank profitability could be quite dramatic. Bad debt provisioning, recently running at nearly £10 billion a year, could fall quickly towards a normal £2 billion or so. Indeed, some debts have clearly been over-provisioned; Lloyds, especially, could be writing back some Latin American loans into its profits. In due course, some of these gains will be shared with bank customers, as competition compresses the abnormal spreads and margins that are now the rule.

In the long run, the stimulus to the non-banks economy will be on much the same scale as the deflation that Mr Clarke threatens; but wait a bit. Bank returns are still grossly inadequate, and one result of credit analysis has been to show that small business lending is under-priced. Good news, but not champagne material.

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## Builders still in recession

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S building industry is still firmly in recession, with no prospect of sustained improvement for at least the next year, in spite of general signs of improvement in the economy, according to the latest industrial survey from construction companies.

The findings of the latest state-of-trade enquiry from the Building Employers Confederation, published yesterday, cast doubt on ministers' claims that the economic recovery is now well under way.

In particular, the survey's conclusions, which are much gloomier than the industry's other recent surveys, undermine the possibility of the sector leading the economy out of recession, and suggest the impact of the economic downturn is likely to be felt for some considerable time.

Building companies said recovery was proving "elusive" on the basis of last month's BEC survey of a sample 6,000 member companies. Building output is still falling after four successive years of decline.

Sir Brian Hill, BEC president, said yesterday: "The optimism felt earlier in the year, and after the Autumn Statement measures to help the industry, has not been sustained. Our markets are suffering from a lack of consumer confidence caused by political and economic uncertainties, speculation about possible tax increases and a continuing fear of unemployment."

The findings included:

- Output: The balance of companies reporting an increase set against those recording a decline stood at -7 per cent. While this is better than last time's -19 per cent, it still marks the sector's 15th successive quarter of decline in output. But companies now believe for the first time since the end of 1989 that output will rise over the next year. Output expectations rose from a balance of -40 per cent to +3 per cent in June. Even so, Sir Brian said: "I can see no prospect of any sustained recovery in the next 12 months."
- New work: After six months of improvement, the balance of companies reporting enquiries for work fell from +1 to -12 per cent.
- Capacity: 95 per cent of building companies are working at less than three-quarters of their current capacity.
- Jobs: While the negative balance of companies expecting to shed jobs is improving, about a quarter still expect to cut staff in the next three months. The employers said half a million workers in the industry had been made jobless since the recession began. They called for an immediate cut in interest rates, urgent government action to harness private-sector funding for public-sector projects and a commitment to maintain capital spending programmes.

Tempos, page 27



No foundation for optimism: Sir Brian Hill of the Building Employers Confederation

## EBRD moves to fill power vacuum

By Colin Narbrough

ANNE Wibble, chairman of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), will today move to fill the power vacuum left at the bank by the resignation last month of Jacques Attali, its controversial French president.

Mrs Wibble, the Swedish finance minister, and her two deputy chairmen, Yoshiro Hayashi of Japan and Mirja Gaspari of Slovenia, are expected at a meeting this morning with M. Attali at the EBRD's City headquarters to choose the person who will take effective charge of the bank until a new president is appointed.

Although M. Attali is understood to be insisting that he must remain in control as long as he is president, he clearly no longer commands authority following his decision to step down after the latest

revelations about reimbursement for flights and a big personal fee for a lecture in Japan. As one EBRD official said, the bank currently has "no generally recognised authority" in charge.

Ron Freeman, M. Attali's American deputy, who would have been ousted under M. Attali's proposed, but now defunct, management shake-up, could fill the power vacuum at the bank temporarily,

but M. Attali would be bitterly opposed to such a move.

Today's meeting is primarily intended to work out the procedures for a change of president and to ensure that the bank is not left rudderless during the interregnum. Mrs Wibble will also deliver a pep talk to the EBRD staff today to try to restore battered morale and indicate the direction the governors want the bank to take in the post-Attali era.

## Sutherland urges G7 to help Gatt

FROM REUTER IN GENEVA

GATT, the world trade body, launched a counter-offensive against protectionist sentiment in America and Europe, arguing that freer trade would save jobs and boost the international economy.

Peter Sutherland, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, said this week's Group of Seven summit in Tokyo must agree "specific, concrete measures" to rescue the Uruguay Round of talks on a new world trade treaty.

Gatt economists also issued a study showing that millions of existing and potential jobs in all main economies would be lost if the open trading system collapsed. Mr Sutherland said the G7 "should go beyond the generalisations and statements of intent" on completing the seven-year Round expressed earlier this year.

The expectation is for something specific and concrete," he said in Geneva.

The Gatt study of G7 trade sought to counter arguments gaining ground in America and France that domestic employment was protected by

slashing imports, especially from low-cost producer states. The study said about 23 million jobs in G7 countries were supported by the export of goods. The Round would bring services, such as banking, under agreed rules and open access to long-protected service markets in developing countries to world suppliers.

G7 summiters, page 27

## Britain to double aid for Vietnam

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

BRITAIN is hoping for substantial oil and construction contracts in Vietnam after an announcement that it will give a total of £10 million in aid to one of the world's few remaining communist countries.

John Major announced that Britain will double its current £5 million aid and trade programme after talks in Downing Street with Vo Van Kiet, the Vietnamese prime minister. Mr Vo is the most senior Vietnamese to visit Britain and his talks here are recognition of an increasingly warm relationship that has been helped by Hanoi's co-operation in the repatriation from Hong Kong of Vietnamese boat people.

During his stay in Britain Mr Vo had talks with BP, the oil company, which is negotiating for large-scale exploration rights in Vietnam. He also visited Birmingham airport, built by John Laing, the construction firm that is hoping to land a contract for the rebuilding of Hanoi airport.

British officials yesterday were delighted that Mr Vo's visit coincided with an announcement from Washington on Friday that America would no longer oppose Vietnamese participation in international financial institutions — an indication that the Clinton administration is preparing for normal diplomatic relations with Hanoi. The announcement would give Vietnam access to international funds for many of large reconstruction projects.

Britain has already given £10 million in a separate aid programme that began in 1990 and is targeted at the returning migrants, to enable them to re-establish themselves in Vietnam.

## O&Y poised for first legal step to recovery

By Martin Flanagan

ADMINISTRATORS to Olympia and York could take the first legal step to pulling the beleaguered Canary Wharf developer out of administration this week.

Sources say Ernst and Young, the administrators, will apply to the High Court on Thursday or Friday, requesting a corporate voluntary arrangement.

Traditionally, such an arrangement is the initial move in getting insolvent companies out of administration, and up and running as a stand-alone business again.

Said a source: "It had earlier been thought that O&Y would not come out of administration until August. But it is likely the first step will now happen this Thursday or Friday at the High Court."

"Then, of course, the voluntary arrangement situation will have to be approved by creditors representing 75 per cent of the outstanding debts."

Ernst and Young would not comment. However, one of the leading Canary Wharf creditors said: "This would be a hugely significant step if it happens. Administration protects companies from its creditors. CVAs, as they are known, are the first step in creating a sound, stand-alone company."

The move could also have positive implications for the planned £2 billion extension of the Jubilee line into Docklands.

It is understood that certain creditor banks will not put up the money towards the project until O&Y is out of administration.

## Yorkshire-Tyne Tees to cut 188 jobs in revamp

YORKSHIRE-Tyne Tees Television, the commercial television contractor for northeast England, says that it is to cut 188 jobs from its centres in London, Leeds and Newcastle as part of a restructuring. "Volunteers are being sought for redundancy," the company said. "The voluntary programme will terminate on July 26, after which date any outstanding numbers will be met by compulsory redundancies." Ninety-one jobs will be lost in London, 51 in Leeds and 46 in Newcastle. The restructuring also includes the transfer of airtime sales to London Weekend Television and the centralising of group programme and commercial transmissions in a new, modern facility in the UK.

The company said that the cutbacks were part of a restructuring exercise to gain further advantage from the combined strength of the newly formed group, which originates from the merger of neighbouring ITV companies in northeast England. Shares in Yorkshire-Tyne Television rose 8p to 212p on the news, and YTT warrants rose 8p to 44p.

## Nursing group ahead

ASSOCIATED Nursing Services is returning to the dividend list with a payout of 1p (full) as improved margins and organic growth saw the nursing homes operator lift pre-tax profits 61.6 per cent to £182 million in the year to end-March. Organic growth helped turnover on continuing businesses advance 18 per cent to £178 million. The group currently owns 13 homes with 668 beds and has a further 12 homes under joint venture with 577 beds. Another 372 beds are under construction for completion this financial year, and 501 are planned for next year. Earnings fell to 16.6p (19p) a share.

## Gardiner cautious

RICHARD Clemons, chairman of Gardiner Group, gave warning of difficult trading conditions as the security products distributor announced a leap in pre-tax profits from £800,000 to £1.8 million in the six months to April 30 after a £5 million rise in sales to £40 million. Earnings were up from 0.54p to 1.15p a share but the interim dividend is cut from 0.47p to 0.23p. Gardiner Security's performance was strong, Mr Clemons said the company was being cautious on prospects for the second half, when most sales tend to occur in September and October.

## Scott Pickford eases

TIGHTER trading meant slacker profits at Scott Pickford, the computer services group. Full-year pre-tax profits fell to £231,032 (£403,717), but the group says current trading is satisfactory and a 15 per cent cut in staff in May has reduced costs significantly. The company also says that Cubit, its newly-launched software product, has met an encouraging response and should boost prospects this year. In the year to end-March, earnings dropped to 0.93 (3.79p) a share. The interim dividend is maintained at 0.8p. The geosience consultancy business saw income improve in the second half.

## Bromsgrove looks East

BROMSGROVE Industries boosted pre-tax profits by 35 per cent to £7.6 million (£5.6 million) in the year to end-March, and said that expansion in the Pacific Rim region was a priority. The group, based in Birmingham, said it saw outstanding opportunities to exploit its technologies in the Far East. In the year under review, the main profits contributors were the plastics division and the marine and offshore arm. Earnings were 7.75p a share against a restated 8.55p. A final dividend of 2.75p makes a total of 4.40p (4p).

## Betterware upbeat

BETTERWARE, the door-to-door distributor of household products, sounded an upbeat note at the annual meeting, saying the company has had a good start to the year, with "another record year in prospect". Walter Goldsmith, chairman, said UK sales in the first three months were up by more than 25 per cent on last year, with profits showing "substantial growth". Betterware France's performance was "accelerating", while a Spanish operation in Barcelona will open this September. The shares gained 8p to 262p.

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## THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 12 of The Scottish Provident Institution Act 1927 that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of the Institution will be held at the Head Office, 6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, 20 July 1993, at 2.30 p.m. to consider and, if thought fit, to pass Special Resolutions for the alteration of the Regulations of the Institution.

Notice is also hereby given in terms of Section 12 that if the said Special Resolutions are passed by the requisite majority at the said meeting a second Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of the Institution will be held at the Head Office on Tuesday 10 August 1993 at 2.30 p.m. to consider and, if thought fit, to confirm the said Special Resolutions.

The general purpose of the proposed alterations is to update the Regulations to clarify the basis on which reinsurance may take place between the Institution and any of its subsidiary companies, and to permit greater flexibility in the means by which surplus may be distributed to certain older policies.

A copy of the proposed alterations can be inspected by any member of the Institution at the Head Office or a copy will be given to any member on request.

By order of the Board of Directors

G Henderson  
Secretary  
6 St Andrew Square  
Edinburgh EH2 2YA  
6 July 1993



## Defence link still eludes GEC and British Aerospace



More amenable: Cahill

By GEORGE SIVEL  
CITY EDITOR

GEC was forced to concede defeat yesterday in recent attempts to woo British Aerospace into creating a joint venture to form a single defence contractor to the Ministry of Defence.

Such a contractor would have ranked as the largest in the world but in a joint statement yesterday British Aerospace and GEC said talks had halted. They explained: "As the two major defence contractors in the United Kingdom, British Aerospace and GEC have a close commercial relationship. As part of this relationship, the two companies co-operate and collaborate in a number of areas. In recent months the two

companies explored, on a preliminary basis, the possibility of further collaboration. In view of weekend press reports, both companies wish to make it clear that discussions on fuller collaboration have ceased. The relationship between the two companies remains close."

Both companies refused to add to the statement other than to point out that GEC is a large supplier to British Aerospace. British Aerospace shares rose 4p yesterday to 386p, lower than the recent high of 425p but still a vast improvement on the 110p nadir struck at the time of the £1 billion restructuring made by new chairman John Cahill last September.

Bae shares rose yesterday despite the scale of cuts proposed in the defence white

paper and the announcement that Britain's fleet of Tornado aircraft will be cut by 13 to 100. Cause of the recent fall has been the persistent failure by British Aerospace to complete the deal to put the Bae 146 jets into a joint venture with the Taiwan Aerospace Corporation. This was a key part of the billion pound restructuring but analysts emphasise that even if the deal is called off British Aerospace has already made balance sheet provisions against the cost of closure.

Agreement in principle has been signed but detailed agreement has not yet been reached on providing lease finance for the joint venture. This is necessary because most small jets, such as the 146, are leased rather than sold to airlines. British Aero-

space said yesterday: "We recognise that final signature has taken longer than both sides would have wanted."

British Aerospace explained that because Taiwan had no indigenous aircraft industry, it had no experience of putting together funding packages for airline leasing. Analysts believe British Aerospace will ultimately sign the leasing deal and has been correct to stick to a no funding, no deal approach.

Mr Cahill, meanwhile, was seen by GEC as more amenable to joint venture proposals than his predecessors. So in December Lord Weinstock made a personal approach to Mr Cahill. The two met in secret to discuss Lord Weinstock's plans for a joint venture but it is understood that Mr Cahill rejected GEC's approach weeks ago. Lord Weinstock is

most unlikely to bid for British Aerospace. But he continues to believe it would be a natural partner in collaboration to create a strong contractor to the Ministry of Defence and to win export orders.

Analysts believe a joint venture between Marconi, GEC's defence electronics subsidiary, and British Aerospace's missiles division would still make sense. This would involve sales of £1 billion rather than the £7 billion annual sales joint venture under negotiation until recently.

Tim Hurst of Kleinwort, the brokers, said: "The market is becoming much more export oriented. From an export view it makes more sense for GEC and Bae to be together."

Defence cuts, pages 1,6,7

## Brewer's profits fall flat for first time in a decade

By MARTIN WALLER  
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE squeeze on the beer market, and the need for a consequent hefty job loss programme, have prompted Scottish & Newcastle, one of Britain's biggest brewers, to report its first fall in profits for more than a decade.

Under the new FRS3 accounting principles, pre-tax profits fell from £209.1 million to £182.5 million in the year to May 2. S&N's shares slipped on the figures, which were worse than most City expectations, although they later recovered to end 2p lower at 499p.

But the company is pushing ahead with a rise in the dividend, a final of 11.07p making a total up from 16.1p to 16.83p. Brian Stewart, chief executive, said: "The general picture for the pub trade is improving, although it is a fragile improvement and varies week by week."

The main cause of the profits decline was a £13.9 million charge for restructuring the beer division, which will take in the loss of more than 600 jobs, or 10 per cent of the division's workforce.

In addition, under the new accounting rules, the group has had to announce a £4 million loss from the sale of fixed assets, mainly various pubs that were deemed not to be suitable for the S&N portfolio.

■ Brewer Scottish & Newcastle is going ahead with a rise in the dividend despite disappointing the City by reporting its first fall in profits in ten years

lio. Interest payable increased £3.4 million to £26.1 million, as borrowings rose to fund the continuing expansion of the leisure division, which includes the Center Parcs holiday business.

Had the previous accounting standards been employed, S&N's annual profits would also have been lower, at £192.5 million before tax against £221.1 million.

In the beer division, which produces brands such as Theakston's, Beck's and McEwan's Export, operating profits dipped 7.1 per cent to £92 million. Volumes were flat, against a market fall generally of 2 per cent. The cheaper brands were badly hit by price-cutting, particularly in the supermarkets, while the share of the division's sales accounted for by premium brands rose from 42 per cent to 45 per cent.

Within pubs, where profits fell 5.1 per cent to £54.1 million, Mr Stewart said his task was to increase the proportion of sales that came from higher-margin food from its current level of 8 per cent, or half the industry average, and he was confident that a level ahead of

10 per cent could be achieved in the current financial year. The division's profits were impacted by the sale of 46 pubs, leaving S&N with 1,845, and by consumers' reluctance to spend, at least until the latter months of last year.

The leisure division, which includes the Fortin's holiday camps as well as Center Parcs, was the only one to notch up a profits increase, of 4.6 per cent to £78 million. Both businesses saw difficult trading last summer as consumer confidence remained low, but only Center Parcs saw any improvement later in the year to end with occupancy rates of more than 90 per cent.

The latter soaked up some £100 million of capital investment, which was the cause of a £35 million cash outflow from S&N during the financial year, of which £75 million went on the new site at Chaumont in France, which is to open later this month. Including Chaumont, S&N now has 13 Center Parcs in operation and plans to build about one a year at an expected cost of £75 million apiece.

Tempos, page 27



Bitter taste: Brian Stewart, of Scottish & Newcastle, reported profits of £182.5 million, against £209.1 million

## Greycoat rescue may put Postel in control

By CARL MORTISHED

POSTEL Investment Management, which runs one of Britain's largest pension funds, could end up controlling Greycoat, the troubled property company, which yesterday confirmed it was in restructuring talks with the Post Office and BT pension funds group. Greycoat prefer-

ence shares soared from 34p to 51p but the ordinary shares slipped 14p to 19p.

Greycoat, developer of London landmarks such as Embankment Place over Charing Cross station, faces a cash-flow crisis over the next two years. It needs to find £50 million to redeem a zero-coupon bond and a further £9 million to pay interest pay-

ments on another bond.

Speculation over the weekend that Greycoat might launch a heavily discounted £120 million rescue rights issue was watered down yesterday by a statement that the talks "may lead to the restructuring of its debt and capital base". The company said further details would be announced today or tomorrow.

Analysts speculated that a £120 million rights issue underwritten by Postel would enable Greycoat to survive but there was a chance that Postel, which owns 5.4 per cent, might be left with the bulk of the shares and an effective majority stake.

Greycoat has assets that could prove very attractive to Postel in the long term.

## Jordan and Stone clear to take insolvency work

By PATRICIA TEHAN

MICHAEL Jordan and Richard Stone, the senior insolvency specialists, have been cleared to carry on taking on insolvency work after a ruling by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales yesterday.

However, Coopers & Lybrand, their firm, is to be subject to an independent review by an experienced insolvency practitioner from another firm to establish whether it has systems in place to ensure that potential conflicts are spotted at an early stage before the firm accepts insolvency appointments.

The ICA ruling follows its investigation into the pair's conduct in taking on the administration of Polly Peck International even though their firm had conducted work for PPI and for Asil Nadir, its former chairman.

The ICA said Mr Jordan and Mr Stone will pay the cost of the reviewer's fees, likely to run into several thousands of pounds, though Coopers said last night that the firm will pick up the bill.

Mr Jordan, who chairs Cork Gully, Coopers' insolvency arm, and Mr Stone,

head of corporate finance, had already been fined £1,000 last October, while also being reprimanded by the Institute's disciplinary committee for breaching ethical guidelines preventing them from being appointed to a company with which their firm had "a continuing professional relationship".

Bruce Pickering, director of practice regulation at the ICA, said the institute "has to be satisfied that there are procedures in place that not only identify conflicts of interest before work is taken on but also result in work being refused".

The ICA said the independent review will consider Cooper's historical procedures to the extent necessary for the reviewer to assess the improvements now in place. Coopers has said it did not pick up the fact that it had worked for Polly Peck in the past because two different systems were in operation after the merger of Cork Gully with Coopers in 1989. Last night, it said it welcomed the independent review.

Meanwhile, Ernst & Young revealed that the ICA's Joint Monitoring Unit's investigation into criticisms of its audit procedures and controls from Department of Trade and Industry inspectors has concluded that it has "comprehensive procedures designed to ensure that audits are conducted properly and with integrity and with a proper degree of independence".

It said that the matters raised by the trade department related to the past and in the majority of cases to predecessor practices.

The enquiry was in to E&Y's audit of Edecorp Leisure and of its predecessor firm's audits of Sound Diffusion, Milbury and Rotaprint.

Jordan: firm pays bill

## Customers fight water price rises

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE Ofwat national customer council hit out at market plans from Britain's water and sewerage companies yesterday, which envisage a 6 per cent annual real increase in water bills from 1995-2000.

Jim Gardner, chairman of the council, said consumers were not prepared to pay even higher bills for slightly better services. He said that the results of recent surveys gave a strong message to companies and government and he pledged to put pressure on the director general of water services and the government to keep prices down.

Mr Gardner said the council would lobby the EC to limit obligations on companies that are driving up bills. Market plans from the water companies based on existing obligations could mean bills as high as £450 in certain areas. "While customers welcome improved service standards, they have reached the point beyond which they are not prepared to go," he said.

Mr Gardner criticised the way some water companies conducted consultations suggesting that insufficient attention was paid to the concerns of low income groups.



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## 'Lloyd's judges' may tackle cases

By SARAH BAGNALL  
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

MR JUSTICE Saville, the judge handling Lloyd's names' cases, is seeking specialist "Lloyd's judges" to cope with the mass of legal actions, a selection of which he proposes to deal with over the next two years. After meeting lawyers representing names and errors and omissions insurers, the judge has proposed a timetable for hearing a select list of test cases and issues common to many actions.

In a letter to the lawyers, Mr Justice Saville said the list "only deals with a few cases and issues, selected in the hope that their hearing will assist the other litigants." However, under the proposed timetable it will take more than two years to work through the list and the judge said that he was aware that the suggested scheme "leaves little or no scope for substantial hearings in the other cases until the autumn of 1995".

issues common to the actions separately and swiftly. The first issues to be dealt with are whether members' agents are responsible for the negligence of managing agents and whether agents owe any extra-contractual duties to names. Mr Justice Saville proposes to hear these in September in the two weeks allotted for the Feilrtn Names Association's summary judgement hearing. If it is not possible to deal with these issues in September, the judge would like them determined in November.

To decide whether auditors owe a duty to names, Mr Justice Saville proposes using Merrett syndicate 418 as a test case. The advantage of using the syndicate is that a hearing could also deal with the question of whether the underwriter owes a duty, and if so what duty, to names. "I have in mind early 1994 for the determination of these issues," he said.

The judge says that the Merrett case might be suitable for considering whether

place. However, he does not propose hearing this before January 1995.

The timetable proposed dates for Feilrtn and Gooda Walker hearings. If the 1,600 litigating Feilrtn names fall in, or withdraw, their summary judgement, a means of speeding the court process, the case "should go to trial in October 1994". Although a final decision depends on common issues hearings. The 2,500 litigating Gooda Walker names, under are not due in court before summer 1995.

Mr Justice Saville said: "I shall do my best to docket one or two judges as 'Lloyd's judges'."

Names yesterday attended an extraordinary general meeting to consider whether Lloyd's, its staff and its council members owe a fiduciary duty of care to names and are liable to pay damages. Names were also being asked to vote that corporate capital should only be allowed into the market under certain conditions, including an annual payment to names.







# Less circus, more focus as recession bites G7 summit

Wolfgang Münchau, in Tokyo, expects this week's Group of Seven summit to return, almost by accident, to the big economic questions

Group of Seven summits are subject to a simple golden rule: there exists an inverse relationship between a summit's success and the length of its communiqué. Unfortunately, the communiqué has been getting longer over the years.

Although by accident, the Tokyo summit this week promises a modest return towards what these G7 summits were supposed to do from the outset: to focus on a few important aspects of international economic policy, such as the restoration of economic growth and reducing unemployment. Jacques Delors, the European Commission president and a notable absentee this year, disparagingly referred to the summits of recent times as a "circus", a comment that reflects that these meetings have lost substance as they degenerated into pomp and circumstance. The forecasts for Tokyo have been almost universally pessimistic, and even if the outcome is better than predicted, a circus of sorts it will be.

This was not always so. The first summit, a G6, without Canada, took place in November 1975 at the Château de Rambouillet. Those present — Harold (now Lord) Wilson, Helmut Schmidt, the late Aldo Moro, Takeo Miki and Presidents Giscard and Ford — came together in the aftermath of the oil crisis and the breakdown of the Bretton Woods system, and discussed economic policy first and foremost. Their joint declaration was crisp at only 1,118 words. By contrast with last year's Munich summit, widely considered the most absurd of the 18 so far, produced three communiqués and six times as many words. The economic communiqué had 50 points covering anything from bio-diversity to Russian nuclear power stations, and it was so general that it would not have passed as a junior high school essay on the world's economic problems.

The reason this week's gathering in Tokyo could take a small step back towards summits' original purpose is purely accidental, however. It is connected to the failure by trade negotiators to reach the outlines of a market access agreement that would regulate international trade barriers in a series of dispute-ridden and sensitive industries, such as textiles, electronics and wood. This failure will keep the exasperatingly complicated issues of trade off the G7 agenda.

The lack of such an agreement has been widely condemned and may increase to some extent the risk of failure of the seven-year-old and never-ending Uruguay Round of international trade talks, which faces a US-imposed December 15 deadline. But the negotiators' failure has its upside too. President Mitterrand — with 13 summits, the most experienced summiteer of all — was right when he warned that summits should not be about the tariffs on American textile imports or similar



Early bird: Henning Christophersen, EC commissioner, in Tokyo yesterday

ly tedious issues. Instead, the failure of the wretched trade talks — another last-minute session is planned for today — would allow the leaders to focus on exactly the kind of issues that the G7 forum is well equipped to deal with: how to increase economic growth and employment at a time of recession.

A policy for growth is also good for trade, since protectionist pressures tend to be highest in times of economic hardship, which is true for the 1930s depression and also today. Protectionism is thus not an evil in its own right, but an evil and, possibly, inevitable consequence of the resounding failure of economic policy. Even free trade fundamentalists cannot seriously argue that a world trade accord would miraculously pull the world economies out of their current desolate state. That is largely a matter for macroeconomic

policy. Nor can they argue that the rising levels of structural unemployment is a result of trade barriers.

The Americans are pressing hardest when it comes to economic growth policies. President Clinton said that without a co-ordinated G7 growth strategy, the world economy will remain weak and America's economy could grind to a halt. His treasury secretary, Lloyd Bentsen wrote in the *Washington Post* that "foreign policy keeps getting closer to home". The world leaders, he said, "will be focused on pocketbook issues — issues like jobs that directly affect American families".

In their quest for a policy to confront the "pocketbook issues", the leaders could do worse than look to the 1978 Bonn summit, one of the most productive of all summits so far. They could adopt the opening paragraph of the joint economic declaration almost verbatim. It read:

"We agreed on a comprehensive strategy covering growth, employment and inflation, international monetary policy, energy, trade and other issues of particular interest to developing countries. We must create more jobs and fight inflation, strengthen international trading, reduce payments imbalances, and achieve greater stability in exchange markets. We are dealing with long-term problems which will only yield to sustained efforts. This strategy is a coherent whole, whose parts are interdependent. To this strategy, each of our countries can contribute from it, each can benefit."

This communiqué contained one of the most concise policy action programmes ever devised, in that it set out in refreshing detail "a program of different actions by countries that face different conditions", as each country committed itself to achieving specific and measurable goals. Germany reluctantly accepted the role of the world's "economic locomotive" by pursuing an expansionist fiscal programme to the displeasure of the Bundesbank, which was then a benign institution.

The German delegation has indicated that by the end of August it will propose to the legislative bodies additional and quantitatively substantial measures up to one per cent of gross national product, designed to achieve a significant strengthening of demand and a higher rate of growth, "the declaration said. The only aspect of the document that seems dated by today's standard is the clarity of its language."

Takeo Fukuda, the then-prime minister of Japan, agreed to a massive expansion of domestic demand in Japan. Noboru Takeshita, who was prime minister of Britain, which according to the document "intends to continue the fight against inflation so as to improve still further the prospects for growth and employment". Plus ça change, except that it was a last summit attended by a Labour prime minister.

Of course, times were different then and the old recipes cannot simply be transposed, nor would it be honest to claim that these measures had always been successful, since otherwise we would not have to deal with the same problems over and over again.

Today, the budget deficits were strained even before the recession started, which precludes a fiscal stimulus as the main tool of policy. Today's approach needs to focus more closely on monetary policy; it should focus on lower budget deficits and it should include the microeconomic issues, especially the labour markets, and, in some countries, the healthcare and welfare policies.

But the spirit of these early G7 summits is worth duplicating nevertheless. They focused almost exclusively on the pursuit of economic growth and the fight against unemployment as the key economic questions of their time.

They resisted the temptation of dilution, and they set themselves ambitious but measurable targets. Tokyo summit will not go all this way but the renewed focus on the important economic issues is at the very least a welcome departure from the lethargy of the recent past.

Let us only hope that the formal communiqué will be much shorter than those that have preceded it, that it will not be a mere list of decisions taken 6,781 words to say that they had not made any important decisions worth remembering.

## TEMPUS Foreign power

GIVEN the dynamics of the domestic power generation market, National Power has little choice but to go west in a quest for continued growth. At home the company, like BT, faces the prospect of a dwindling share in an increasingly competitive market. So it must channel its cash flow into overseas assets, with all the risks that entails.

National Power's £105 million acquisition of Transco Energy Ventures may disturb shareholders who thought they had invested in a sleepy, privatised utility, but the deal is sufficiently cautious to prevent the company taking an early bath in its international expansion. The investment represents only 3.1 per cent of the group's assets.

Transco's portfolio of seven equity stakes in power projects will not tax National Power's management and will allow it to learn firsthand about the pitfalls of the most competitive power market in the world. If all goes well, the

company will contribute to earnings by 1995 since two of the largest stations in the portfolio are still being built and will not come on stream until next year. Even if the whole venture collapses without trace, the heavy debts of the power stations are non-recourse, so National Power's downside losses are modest.

National Power's plan to invest £1 billion, or more than a quarter of its assets, overseas by the end of the decade suggests this is only one of a stream of investments. The group is already involved in projects in India, Portugal, Pakistan and Malaysia, while Transco itself is already looking at further projects that would double its size.

Whether National Power can transform itself from British utility to global acquirer so quickly must be left open to question. But if that is the tune being played by the regulator, then John Baker, the group's chief executive, has no alternative but to dance to it.

### S & N

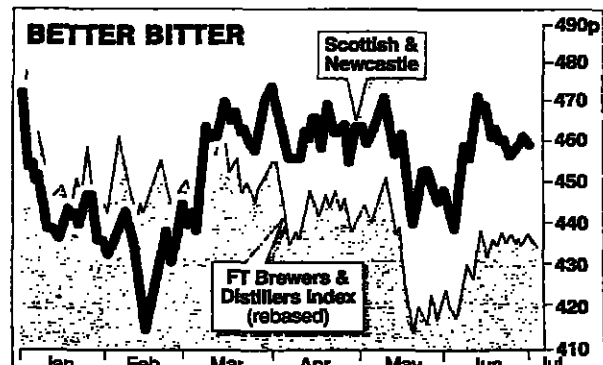
SIR Alick Rankin is a rare creature in the corridors of British industry, a business man who sold at the top of the market. If Scottish & Newcastle had not disposed of Thistle Hotels for £645 million four years ago and invested the proceeds in Center Parcs, yesterday's figures would have looked bleak.

As it is, Scottish & Newcastle now looks one of the most robust among the major brewers. Unlike some of its rivals, the group is not saddled with high debts: gearing is 29 per cent and interest costs were more than eight times covered last year. Nor was the profit and loss account marred by a heavy property writedown — the fall in the value of the pubs was offset by a surplus from the leisure division.

Unlike some of its peers,

S&N also has two areas of real potential to expand profits. The first is food, an area of traditional weakness. Dry sales contribute only 8 per cent of the group's retailing turnover, half the industry average. That should increase with new initiatives, and every one point rise is worth £3 million in sales. Center Parcs remains the

other exciting area for the group and a worthy recipient of much of its excess cash. The holiday camp business makes a return of more than 10 per cent despite the rapid development programme. Given the potential for earnings growth, the group's traditional 10 per cent discount to the sector no longer looks warranted.



### Construction

THE dire findings of the latest Building Employers Confederation survey do nothing to justify the high ratings the stock market has assigned to construction companies in anticipation of a rapid revival.

The only silver lining the report may have for the industry is that confirmation of the gloomy outlook could dissuade government against cutting back on road and other construction spending.

The confederation certainly has a case. The few stirrings of activity earlier in the year appear to have been short-lived. Housebuilding is the only sector showing even tentative signs of recovery. The commercial side is still plagued by overcapacity, postponing any prospect of recovery until 1995 at the earliest, and the industrial sector needs a substantial uplift in corporate profitability before progress can be made. The cashflows of several large construction companies are already severely strained and another two

years of falling order books could prove too much.

Against such a background building material groups like Pilkington and BPB are fortunate they have been able to increase prices by 10 per cent, shielded by sterling's devaluation. Until their customers begin to feel more secure, further rises are unlikely to stick.

### British Airways

MOST companies would welcome near double-digit volume growth, but British Airways' announcement of a 9 per cent increase in scheduled revenue passenger kilometres, its measure of volume, was marred by an even greater increase in the number of seats. With capacity rising faster than volumes the inevitable outcome was a fall in passenger load factors, down from 73.8 per cent to 72.5 per cent.

The pattern in seat pricing volume was even more disturbing. First and business class traffic is still falling, as corporate customers pare travel expenses. From April to

June, premium traffic fell 1 per cent after a 4 per cent drop in the first quarter.

The only saving grace in the figures was the growth on the high margin European routes, which may compensate for the continuing decline in premium business.

### Siemens

IF large German companies really hope to woo foreign investors they will need to be more precise than Siemens was yesterday about its profit forecast. After saying his previous prediction of an unchanged net profit for the year to end-September still held, Heinrich von Pierer, the chairman of the management board, admitted the figure may have to be revised down in the last quarter if there were any "unpredictable developments". Disarming honesty, but enough to the market officials and investors in knots. One cannot help concluding that the most unpredictable event in German industrialists' eyes is the recession and a Bundesbank's reaction to it.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Going against tradition

JOHN Wesley must be turning in his grave. Wesleyan Assurance, the Birmingham financial services company named after the founder of the Methodist church, has decided to boost its profile in a manner seemingly at odds with its tradition. Entering into a national sponsorship deal for the first time in its 151-year history, the company is lending its name to the outrageous television antics of Noel Edmonds and his manic costumed sidekick, Mr Blobby, hero of the nation's football terraces. Wesleyan is paying £300,000 to be the main sponsor of Noel's Garden Party, a spin-off from Edmonds' hugely successful BBC1 show *Noel's House Party*. In the show, celebrity guests are covered in slime in the "gunge tank" and members of the audience try desperately to "grab a grand". Asked what the company's ascetic Methodist founders would have made of this, George Strang, Wesleyan senior marketing executive, said: "Far from turning in their graves, our clerical forebears could well be giving a satisfied nod and saying: 'Yes, this is the way towards 2000.' That John Wesley would himself feel inclined to back such celebration of unbridled greed is about as likely as the Pope sponsoring a Sinead O'Connor concert.

### Royal command

A PRINCESS who prefers to be known as Charlotte Luxembourg is to marry a young cor-

porate financier. Mark Cunningham, 27, who met his princess at Oxford, works in the corporate finance department of Panmure Gordon, where he has been busy putting together last week's successful Metrowest Industries flotation. Cunningham, who is told will get married at a "very low-key" ceremony this September in France, already appears to have had a few lessons from royal press officers. "You must not quote me on anything," he says.

### In the swim

BELL Lawrie White, TSB's former Scottish stockbroker arm that has been beset by resignations since its merger with Brewin Dolphin three months ago, has made its first senior appointment. James Glancy, 45, a former partner of Wood Mackenzie & Co, whose private client business in Edinburgh remained an integral part of Bell Lawrie, is leaving NatWest Securities to manage the merged firm's in-



Edmonds: Wesleyan help

stitutional business from London, starting on August 2. John Hall, managing director of Brewin Dolphin, says the firm will concentrate on the analysis of regional and particularly Scottish companies. "James Glancy's appointment is a significant step in developing this part of the business," he says.

### All bets off

A GUEST OF Coral, the bookmakers, at Sandown this weekend, Michael Howard found it impossible to avoid some intense lobbying by Derek Thompson, the Channel 4 racing pundit. Thompson told the home secretary and his wife that the 5-2 favourite, Khamaseen, was certain to win. "You could bet the public sector deficit on it," he said. Luckily, Howard would not be persuaded. The bet came sixth.

### Stroll on

THE "Pershing Pacers" are aiming yet again for first prize in this Sunday's Cadbury Strollerthon. Pershing Securities, which won the coveted team prize last year, by raising £20,000, has raised the stakes to £10,000. Pershing's Gary Wilkins has cajoled 77 employees into strolling the ten-mile route from Broadgate Centre to Hyde Park. More than 60 companies have entered the annual stroll, including Coopers & Lybrand, Lehman Brothers, Baring Asset Management and Sun Alliance. The Stock Exchange, another rival, also hope to put Pershing off course.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

### Planting seeds for return to profit

From Mr D. I. Neuteboom Sir, Anatole Kaletsky (June 30) explained the benefits of falling currency values. Although I understand the benefits of controlled devaluation on the global economy, a problem occurs when some countries devalue their currencies far faster than others. This makes the playing field distinctly lumpy.

For example, British fruit growers have streamlined and improved their businesses so that they are now highly competitive with growers in the rest of the EC. However, all EC growers are now having to struggle with the phenomenon of fruit available throughout the year from South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Chile — ie the southern hemisphere producers. The currency values of those countries have dropped much faster than the EC currencies, such as the lira, mark, and pound. The net effect is that the labour costs in the EC now far outstrip the labour costs in the southern hemisphere countries to grow the same product. In fact, the wage levels in the southern hemisphere fruit producing countries are about 20 per cent of our wage levels, while labour costs form 60 per cent of the total cost of the same product produced in the EC.

This will have the effect that the people who are perfectly competitive within the EC environment are now having to close their businesses because a fruit producer cannot take up his "factory" (land) and place himself with his production capacity in the southern hemisphere, where the labour cost is substantially lower. The result will be a further deterioration of our rural economic structure.

The southern hemisphere also has lower social security and environmental costs, for instance in some of the south American countries DDT spraying is still practised. All these factors have led to an oversupplied EC market, where fruit growers find it hard to make any profit.

Other well developed nations, ie Japan, completely protect their internal market from this unfair competition through a selection of extreme quality demands and high import tariffs. Some form of much more effective regulatory intervention is absolutely essential to restore the profitability of EC fruit growers.

A strict application of the reference price system truly reflecting the cost price in EC countries on fruit imports from outside the EC, which is not the case at the moment, is essential to safeguard the rural economy.

Yours sincerely, DAN NEUTEBOOM, Hemmings Fruit Farms, Old East End Hall, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

### UMWA should return to the negotiating table

From Mr I. F. Engelhardt Sir, As you are aware, the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) has been conducting a "corporate campaign" against Peabody Holding Company and its owner, Hanson PLC, in the City in an effort to pressure us to agree the union's demands.

Contrary to your report (June 29) on the labour dispute, Peabody Holding Company's subsidiaries, Peabody Coal Company and Eastern Associated Coal Corp, as well as the multi-employer bargaining group that is actually negotiating with the union, are ready to conclude a settlement with the UMWA that provides a secure future for union miners. The bargaining group has offered increased job opportunities to the UMWA miners, however, the union leadership rejected the offers.

The competitive realities fac-

### Proportional pay

From Mrs Annabel Geddes Sir, As a widow with a reasonably wide but not substantial portfolio of shares, unit trusts etc, I am becoming more and more depressed as the post delivers annual reports or interim statements showing a decline in my share value, yet no diminution of senior directors' salaries. Indeed, they often show increases!

Occasionally, I attend an AGM, but obviously, as a small shareholder, my suggestions that directors' fees should be in ratio to the profit level of the company concerned, annually adjusted, go unheeded.

What do you think? Am I

barney?

Yours sincerely, ANNABEL GEDDES, 596 Hartcourt Terrace, SW10.

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Pursuing a progressive business strategy in the UK and internationally, Mott MacDonald has enjoyed significant growth over the last five years. It has created a powerful platform for global expansion in pursuit of its mission - pre-eminence in its chosen specialist disciplines. These range from transportation, building and urban infrastructure to water supply, environmental management and rural development. Current and recent commissions include the Channel Tunnel, Boston Central Artery in the USA and Hong Kong's new Airport Terminal and Lantau Fixed Crossing.

You will advise the Group Board and Divisions on all legal aspects of Group projects and commercial ventures, both in a national and international context. To succeed, you will be proactive and imaginative, capable of undertaking a lead role and working closely with senior management. In your 30's or 40's, you will have gained at least 8 years' relevant experience, preferably within industry, in at least three of the following:

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- Property, building, construction
- EC/competition law
- Company secretarial and corporate governance

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact Peter Thompson on 071-485 6062 (081-806 7897 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Douglall Commerce & Industry Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4PL. Confidential fax: 071-831 6394. The assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Quarry Douglall Commerce & Industry Recruitment.



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## PRIVATE CLIENT LAWYER Early Partnership

Our London-based client is an established medium-sized firm with excellent European links. It constantly strives to improve its service to existing clients and to market its unique selling points to potential clients, both domestic and international. A further private client lawyer is now sought.

The successful candidate, preferably aged 30-35, will have a minimum of four years' broadly based private client experience in areas such as probate (both domestic and international) and complex trusts.

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This position is of vital strategic importance to the firm's long-term interests and offers an expected early partnership and a highly competitive salary package.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Deborah Delgale or Stephen Rodney on 071-405 6062 (081-520 6559 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4PL. Confidential fax: 071-831 6394. Initial discussions can be held on a no names basis.



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An assistant is now sought with, ideally, 3-5 years' experience. The successful candidate will have an excellent academic background and top flight City or equivalent experience. He or she will relish the opportunity to form close links with the firm's clients and to be a key member of a close knit team.

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact Jonathan Brenner on 071-377 0510 (081-332 0733 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax: 071-247 5174.



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Eastern Electricity is a major plc with impressive plans for continuing growth and diversification. In line with our commitment to maintaining a leading market position, we require a senior lawyer to join our well established in-house legal team.

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Reporting to the Company Solicitor, you will supervise and provide a full service in relation to contentious issues, which will include commercial disputes, personal injury claims and employment matters. In addition, there will be involvement in general non-contentious issues.

You must have a minimum of four years' post qualification experience. Although a strong litigation background is prerequisite, experience in providing non-contentious commercial advice would be a distinct

advantage. With excellent technical and negotiation skills, it is also imperative that you demonstrate maturity, flexibility and management ability.

Based at our attractive regional headquarters, this is a unique opportunity which offers a generous employment package including relocation assistance where necessary.

For further information or for an informal discussion, please telephone Tony Browne, Company Solicitor on 0473 553600. Applications should be sent in writing to Brian England, Personnel Adviser, Eastern Electricity plc, Wherstead Park, PO Box 40, Wherstead, Ipswich IP9 2AQ by Friday 16 July 1993.

We are an equal opportunity employer.



## WALTONS & MORSE Insurance Litigation

Long established as a commercial practice in the City, Waltons & Morse is well recognised as a major force within the international insurance arena.

With the continued success of this specialist field, supported by the increasing strength of their shipping, property, corporate and banking sectors, the firm is constantly seeking to consolidate and expand its legal service. To that effect it now wishes to recruit two high calibre lawyers to add further weight to the insurance group.

As the largest team within the firm, the insurance group handles a range of contentious and non-contentious matters acting for clients including insurance brokers, insurance and reinsurance companies, Lloyds syndicates, Names and agents. Ideal applicants for these positions will therefore have between two and five years specialist experience in a range of large scale contentious insurance disputes which, in particular, should include a familiarity with the workings of the London market and expertise in insurance brokers, construction professionals, professional indemnity and reinsurance disputes.

These positions represent an exceptional opportunity for ambitious lawyers to join a young, dynamic and very approachable partnership with an acknowledged reputation in this area of specialisation.

For further information or for an informal discussion in complete confidence, please telephone Sue Kench on 071 831 2000 or write to her at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Details will be held in strict confidence and will not be released to our client without express prior permission.



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We offer an outstanding compensation and benefits package. Please forward your resume with salary history and requirements to: Manager, Human Resources Operations, One Giraldi Farms, Madison, NJ, USA 07940-1000. If there is an interest in your candidacy we will contact you. An equal opportunity employer, M/F/D/V.



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# LAW

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## Acting for 60,000 lawyers

The high-profile Rodger Pannone next week becomes president of the Law Society. Frances Gibb talks to the man who might have been a priest

For a lawyer who brazenly thrives in the heat of publicity, Rodger Pannone was uncharacteristically tight-lipped last week. He would not comment at all on Michael Mates' allegations concerning his client, Asil Nadir. "We might have to appear before a select committee," he said.

High-profile clients apart (before Nadir, it was Ernest Saunders), Pannone will be staying firmly in the public eye. Next week he takes over as president of the Law Society. For a year he will be chief mouthpiece and policy-maker for 60,000 solicitors in England and Wales.

Aged 50, Mr Pannone is already a household name. The combination of an ebullient personality and his cases — the Manchester air disaster, Zeebrugge, Opren (the anti-arthritis drug), Piper Alpha, the Marchioness pleasure boat — have built his reputation as a "people's lawyer", a fighter who takes on big companies and wins compensation for disaster victims through American-style tactics and tough negotiation. A colleague comments: "He has been very, very successful. He is hard-working and is an excellent litigator."

Over 20 years, Mr Pannone has carved out a new kind of litigation: the class action. With Michael Napier, he set up the country's first "disaster" practice in 1983, with the idea of coordinating claims, not commonplace in big disasters or drug cases, to create a more level playing field between plaintiffs and defendants.

Usually for a lawyer, he sought publicity, and his skillful use of the media reaped benefits for clients. Inevitably, his tactics have bred accusations of compromising principle in the interests of settlement. "The steering committees (of all the solicitors in any big action) generate jeal-

ousies," he admits. "In Opren, we settled the claims on the basis that we would not take on any more cases. That is something that privately we found totally objectionable — but we had to ask, what is our duty to our existing clients?"

Meanwhile, Mr Pannone has master-minded the rapid growth of his own Manchester-based firm. There was a need, he says, to bring in commercial-company expertise, and a wish to secure a footing in the City. In three years, his firm doubled in size to 55 partners. A 1990 merger with March Pearson Skelton in Manchester was followed in 1992 by another with Pritchard Englefield & Tobin in London. Pannone & Partners was born. European links had also been forged: in 1988 the firm joined a European Economic Interest Grouping.

All, however, has not been plain sailing. The pioneering concept for the UK was the "Marks & Spencer" project: to have a firm linked with Pannone's in every big city, offering the same range of expertise and quality of service (Pannone's firm was the first to win the British Standards 5750 quality kitemark). "But then the recession came and I became deputy vice-president and it was quite clear it was going to be difficult to achieve," he admits.

His un-English upstart style and personality — the Italian-origin Mr Pannone does not suffer from modesty — irritate some lawyers. "His weakness is that he is so self-satisfied," one solicitor says. "He is always boasting of what he has achieved."

Those who know him insist the good qualities outweigh his Achilles' heel. "He likes publicity, but he does not take himself too seriously," a friend says. "He is self-deprecating and has a good sense of humour. He is immensely likeable because he is disarmingly candid." He has another side,



Walking tall: Rodger Pannone, the solicitor whose cases often make headlines

too, shown by his sensitivity to criticism. "He is not that confident underneath," the friend says. "He can be quite humble, almost shy — aware of his weaknesses."

Before choosing law, Pannone almost became a priest. "I'd reached the stage where the next step would have been taking my vows but I decided I wanted a family." Another possibility was politics: he nearly fought a Labour seat and still boasts of his party credentials.

Mr Pannone is a devoted husband and father. "I have a strong marriage," he says. He has known Patricia, his wife, a citizen's advice bureau worker, since their teens, and they have three children. They live

in Didsbury, Manchester. He maintains — and friends agree — that his lifestyle is not extravagant. Cynics point out that he and his firm would benefit greatly from reforms he champions, such as contingency (no win, no fee) fees.

Friends, however, consider his commitment to causes and clients to be genuine, not self-motivated. "Rodger is not a person interested in material wealth for his own sake," one says. "He does not live in the lap of luxury."

Ironically, as his place in the public gallery of solicitors is assured, he has moved away from disaster work. "There is another generation now," he says. His name, with Napier's, still draws cases but his energies go into management and policy for the firm. It would be fitting in his presidential year

where he to see the first solicitors into the higher courts: Pannone was at the forefront of the campaign ten years ago to break the Bar's monopoly.

He aims to raise the image of solicitors at a time when he sees the legal system as Treasury-run and the ethos of cheapness prevailing over quality. "Voters have a right to say we demand a well-funded medical or legal profession in which high standards are fairly remunerated."

He also wants a tougher line on shoddiness. "For too long, the Law Society has protected the incompetent, promoting all solicitors as equally competent," he says. High standards and expertise should be rewarded. "I want to see solicitors walk a little taller. Most of us are giving a damn good service."

## When you can trust jurors to forget

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Betty Boothroyd, told Michael Mates, MP, last week that he was in danger of breaching the "sub-judice" rules of the Commons by seeking to express concerns about the way in which the Serious Fraud Office had handled the case of Asil Nadir. That ruling, and a recent Court of Appeal decision, raise important questions about the circumstances in which published or broadcast material may prejudice a jury in a criminal trial.

Last month the appeal court quashed the convictions of two sisters, Michelle and Lisa Taylor, for the murder of Alison Shaughnessy. The court criticised the police for not disclosing to the defence important evidence which undermined the credibility of the key prosecution witness. That inexcusable failure of itself justified the decision to allow the appeal. The court went on to find that "unremitting, extensive, sensational, inaccurate and misleading" media coverage of their trial had deprived the sisters of a fair hearing and meant that a fair retrial could not now take place. Lord Justice McCowan ordered the newspaper reports to be referred to the attorney-general for him to consider whether to bring proceedings for contempt. Instead of taking advantage of the right to silence, *The Sun* responded with an editorial suggesting that "justice would be better served if there were fewer judges from Brasenose College, Oxford, and more *Sun* readers from the University of Life on the bench".

The only recent precedent is the decision of the Court of Appeal in 1990 to quash the convictions of three Irish nationalists for conspiracy to murder the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and others. The appeal was allowed because of widely publicised general comments, during the trial, by the then Secretary of State, Tom King, and by Lord Deane, the former Master of the Rolls, about the need to amend the law relating to the right to silence, a right the defendants were exercising.

The general approach of criminal courts to prejudicial publicity was expressed by Mr Justice Lawton during the trial of Ronald Ray and others for murder in 1969. In rejecting the defence's complaint that there could not be a fair trial, Mr Justice Lawton stated that he had "enough confidence in my fellow-countrymen to think that they have newspapers sized up, and they are capable in normal circumstances of looking at a matter fairly and without prejudice even though they have to disregard what they may have read in a newspaper". Even when a juror

had read in a newspaper discreditable allegations about the defendant, still, Mr Justice Lawton thought, "the public's recollection is short, and the drama, if I may use that term, of a trial almost always has the effect of excluding from recollection that which went before".

Similar principles were restated in December 1988 by the then attorney-general, Sir Patrick Mayhew. The Irish attorney-general had declined to extradite Father Patrick Ryan to the United Kingdom to face charges alleging criminal acts linked to terrorism. One of the reasons given by the Irish attorney-general was that public statements by the prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, about Father Ryan, which had been widely reported, meant that "it would not be possible for a jury to approach the issue of his guilt or innocence free from bias".

Mr Patrick made a statement in the House of Commons. After commenting that he found the reasoning of his Irish counterpart "regrettably offensive", he explained that a fair trial because "juries in England are invariably instructed that they must decide the case only on the evidence that they have heard and seen in the trial".

In Sir Patrick's experience, "juries heed those directions scrupulously, with the fairness that one expects in the ordinary men and women of our country". Therefore, "whatever may have been published anywhere", Sir Patrick was "entirely confident that if and when Patrick Ryan were to come to trial in England, there would be no significant risk that such publicity would affect a jury's ability or will to try him fairly".

A news report can prejudice a fair trial only if jurors see it, believe it, remember it and act on it in preference to what they hear in court, despite any judicial direction to the contrary. In the Taylor sisters' case, the trial judge several times warned the jury to ignore press reports.

Judges, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, need to be careful not to adopt unrealistic assessments of jurors' memories of, and reliance on, what they read in popular (or any) newspapers, especially in relation to a criminal trial through which they have sat. When, as in the case of Asil Nadir, the supposedly prejudicial comments occur months before any trial (even assuming Mr Nadir were now to return to this country), any risk to a fair trial is so small that it cannot possibly outweigh the public interest in hearing Mr Mates's allegations.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



COUNSEL  
DAVID  
PANNICK QC

## Another Titanic?

ESTIMATES for the predicted losses at Lloyd's are creeping up. Gordon Allison, the barrister retained by Hancock's solicitors in Oxford, to help farmers protect their assets, says he believes the losses for 1990 are likely to be nearer £15 billion to £20 billion rather than the £2.9 billion to £3 billion reported last week.

"Syndicates are not reinsuring the 1990 losses — they won't touch the claims at all — so those losses will fall on the 1990 syndicates."

"I liken the position of the Names to those passengers who danced on the Titanic as the band played on and the captain assured everyone that everything was OK after the ship was holed."

### Moving on

BAD NEWS for the cause of promotion: more women to the senior ranks of the judiciary. Dame Margaret Booth, one of the few women to have reached the High Court

bench, is resigning in the New Year. Dame Margaret, aged 60, is one of the most popular, friendly and sympathetic judges in the family division, and nowhere near retiring age. But she says that she will have done her 15 year stint on the High Court bench and wants a change, plus the chance to be free of the restrictions of judging.

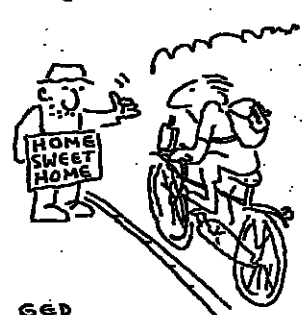
She says she has no particular irons in the fire. However, my moles tell me an Oxbridge college beckons. Their gain, the judiciary's loss.

### Cold comfort

MARRIED couples who are sports mad should always buy two season tickets for their favourite team — or they may end up giving a lot of money to the lawyers.

When the Los Angeles Kings ice hockey team made it to the semi-finals of the National Hockey League Cup, Isaac Safdiey received a nasty shock. His estranged wife Michele went to the

divorce court claiming ownership of their sole season ticket. In a judgment of Solomon, the judge split the remaining games between the two. And if the team makes it to the finals, the warring couple will each get to see a bit.



### Wheel power

SOME lawyers are prepared to do something more than walk hastily past the homeless in — and lately around — Lincoln's Inn Fields. Ron Norman, partner at law firm Reynolds Porter Chamber-

lain, set off recently from the Fields to cycle 90 miles a day over 11 days, finishing in Budapest last weekend.

The money will go to fund the setting up of a rehabilitation centre in Camden, north London.

### Package deal

HERBERT Smith is making no secret of its moves to launch a one-stop shop for litigation as soon as solicitors are allowed into the High Court.

Charles Plant, the head of litigation, admits that although traditionally solicitors have instructed counsel to settle pleadings, the firm has been drafting pleadings itself to a limited extent for some time and is now introducing training so it can take over drafting of all pleadings.

Two years after the legislation came in to end the Bar's monopoly of higher courts, solicitors are no nearer being allowed into the higher courts. The decision is now up to the judges.

### Costs up

THE impact of the landmark ruling last November in the tax case *Pepper v Hart* is starting to bite. The case was hailed as a breaking new ground in that the law lords said courts could have recourse to *Hansard*, the record of parliamentary debate, when trying to determine the meaning of a statute.

Now lawyers fear that if they do not trawl *Hansard* when preparing a case they are at risk of being sued for professional negligence.

The client, of course, will pay for this extra work. One City firm estimates that in a recent case it added another 25 per cent to the bill.

### Smell a rat

THE morning routine of the police station in Busia, Kenya, was rudely interrupted recently when a young man marched into the station clutching four large rats and demanded that they be arrested for eating all his bread.

According to a report in Nairobi's *Daily Nation*, the man was then himself detained and questioned to ascertain if he was drunk or insane. The police, however, found him "sober and of sound mind" and dispatched him and the rats to the local public health office.

SCRUENOR

## LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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## The success story continues ...

Already a firm of regional pre-eminence, Hammond Suddards has in recent years become a firm of national and international repute. Through strategic acquisitive and organic growth, both at senior and junior levels, the firm continually strives to maintain standards of excellence offering the best service to the highest quality client base, which includes household name leading national and international corporations. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the IP field where opportunities now exist to join an established team drawing on the firm's resources in London, Yorkshire and Manchester.

The IP unit prides itself on staying ahead of its competition through a creative mix of litigation, avoidance and licensing, suggesting solutions truly tailored to the commercial as well as legal needs of its clients. A 3-4 year qualified specialist IP litigator is sought for the firm's London office. Extensive patents experience is essential as is an ability to demonstrate partnership calibre business acumen. For the successful candidate, the prospects for advancement are excellent.

In addition, the firm seeks two 0-3 year qualified assistants to be based in Yorkshire, advising on a mix of contentious and non-contentious work and servicing clients in the firm's Leeds, Bradford and Manchester offices. Relevant IP experience is a prerequisite. At least one September 1993 qualifier is required.

For these positions, a science degree is highly desirable.

These are unrivalled opportunities to join a young, dynamic partnership and work directly for partners who are undisputed leaders in their spheres of expertise. The successful candidates will be rewarded with excellent salary and benefits packages, making these propositions outstanding.

For further information in complete confidence please contact: Gareth Quarry or Stephen Rodney for London on 071-405 6062 (071-228 5345 evenings/weekends) or Graham Manley or Adrian Fox for Yorkshire on 0532-429700 (0532-753338 or 0484-684345 evenings/weekends). Alternatively, write to Quarry Douglas Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4PL. Confidential fax: 071-831 6394 (London) or 0532-423033 (Leeds). Initial meetings can be held in London or Leeds.

All direct applications will be forwarded to Quarry Douglas Recruitment.

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## CRIMINAL JUSTICE AFTER THE ROYAL COMMISSION

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

THE MANNHEIM CENTRE FORUM

THE Royal Commission on Criminal Justice today reports at a time of crisis in the criminal justice system. *The Times* and the LSE Mannheim Centre are holding a conference on July 27 to examine the issues raised by the commission's investigation of the criminal justice system in England and Wales.

Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, will open this first public debate on the commission's findings. Speakers at the one-day debate include Viscount Romer, the chairman of the royal commission, Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Lord Williams of Mostyn and Gareth Peirce, a leading defence solicitor.

The cost is £150 a person, including buffet lunch. A limited number of student places are available at £35 each. To book, return the form. Information: 071-955 7227

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AFTER THE ROYAL COMMISSION at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE

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Solicitors will be eligible to claim their attendance as part of their requirement under the Law Society's scheme for continuing professional development. Please return this form to Short Courses Office, LSE, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE (071-955 7227)



# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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The Legal Trainer will work in close collaboration with the Head of Education and with lawyers responsible for the development of know-how within the firm, to establish effective training programmes, creating and delivering courses for both trainee and qualified solicitors.

The successful applicant is likely to be a commercial lawyer with at least two years' experience from either a professional or academic background. A proven track record in the development and presentation of training programmes in both law and legal skills is preferred. He or she will be attracted by a role which demands creative responsibility, good interpersonal skills and the experience of managing both professional and non-professional staff.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact our consultant, Jonathan Macrae on 071-377 0510 (071-226 1558 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Zarak Macrae Brenner, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

**HERBERT SMITH**

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One of the leading international law firms, our Client seeks two first rate lawyers to join its Commercial Property Group in the City. Advising blue chip corporate and institutional clients, financiers, public authorities, developers and contractors, the Group enjoys high profile, handling some of the City's most complex transactions.

### PLANNING SPECIALIST 2-3 YEARS

The transactional planning team advises on planning issues arising from project inception through to completion. Our Client is looking for a number two to the team leader. You will be familiar with the planning regime (for example, development plans, section 106 agreements and related environmental aspects), and able to isolate the salient issues and offer both legal and strategic advice to clients. You will be a dedicated planning specialist who, ideally, qualified between September 1989 and September 1991.

The Group benefits from an excellent partner/assistant ratio and you will be encouraged to assume substantial responsibility and enjoy a high degree of client contact. Both positions offer exceptional opportunities for career advancement to highly motivated and commercially aware lawyers with City partnership aspirations.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Jonathan Brenner or Sally Horrox on 071-377 0510 (081-332 0733 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

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This vacancy will appeal to a technically able and commercially astute 1-2 year qualified assistant with a good understanding of the workings of the domestic and international property markets, and an appreciation of the funding and tax principles which underpin them. You will have a hands-on role in a diverse range of property transactions, ranging from high profile infrastructure and development initiatives through to the property aspects of privatisations, flotations and insolvencies.

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Our City Client has developed a strong and prestigious international Finance Group. A strategic decision has been made to expand the Group in London and overseas. As a result the firm can offer outstanding career opportunities to exceptional lawyers who qualified between 1988 and 1991. There are a number of strong practice areas within the Group, requiring intellectually astute lawyers with good commercial sense.

You will have the opportunity to gain experience of a full range of capital markets, securitisation and structured finance transactions, derivatives work and all aspects of banking, asset and project finance.

Great emphasis is placed on individual career progression (in London or with the firm overseas). The development of long term working relationships with clients (including, increasingly, secondments) is also an important feature of the firm's practice. A top City salary package is offered in a firm committed to the recruitment of lawyers with partnership aspirations.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Jonathan Brenner or Sally Horrox on 071-377 0510 (081-332 0733 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174.

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Our client is a £100 million turnover plc with a full London Stock Exchange listing, operating in the high technology sector. The group comprises operations in a number of countries, including a listed subsidiary in the USA, and is growing rapidly both organically and through acquisitions. In 1992 turnover increased by 17% and pre-tax profits more than doubled. An opportunity has now arisen for a strong Company Secretary, capable of providing effective secretarial and administrative support to the group. Working closely with the highly experienced group management team, the individual will need maturity and credibility coupled with a pragmatic and flexible hands-on approach. Key responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring compliance with Stock Exchange requirements both in the UK and overseas.
- Statutory matters for the holding company and support for its subsidiaries.
- Administration of the group's share option and pension schemes.
- Risk management and overseeing the group's insurance requirements.

- Controlling the relevant aspects of acquisitions and disposals.
  - Participation in the day to day running of the group accounts function.
  - Ad hoc support for the Directors as required.
- The successful candidate will be a qualified Chartered Secretary with a proven track record in a fully listed company. Experience of US statutory regulations would be advantageous. It is a prerequisite that you have excellent administrative and communication skills, a well developed written style and are PC literate.

This is an ideal role for individuals looking for an active part in the management of a successful and growing group.

Interested applicants should write to: Anne Wilkie, quoting reference 152694 and include a full CV, salary details and daytime telephone number, at Michael Page Finance, Windsor Bridge House, 1 Brocas Street, Eton, Berkshire SL4 6BW.

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Shoosmiths & Harrison is one of the Country's leading regional practices with a total of 58 Partners and in excess of 600 staff.

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# Courts caught in a time warp

Anyone walking the corridors of the Law Courts today could be forgiven for thinking him or herself in something of a time warp. Little has changed since 1873, the time of the last reforms in civil procedure. The technological revolution has largely bypassed civil litigation and its main impact is harmful: the flood of paper from the photocopier.

Although the quality of the justice ultimately granted may be of the highest order, the process by which it is obtained is slow, cumbersome, complex, inflexible and out of date. Many of those who participate in the process, be they judges, lawyers or administrators, do so in a manner steeped in traditional ideas and attitudes. As a result, a system devised in Victorian times can no longer cope with the volume or complexity of the work.

The civil law assures our liberties, guarantees our rights and protects our freedoms. It should be within the reach of every citizen, however rich or poor, powerful or weak, and however large or small the subject matter of his or her dispute. But it is not.

The recent cuts in civil legal aid have only served to exacerbate an already deteriorating situation. Civil justice is in reality only available to the very rich and the very poor. Even for those who can afford to litigate, costs have escalated, delays have increased, trials have become more complex and they take longer. The sufferer is the litigant.

There is widespread dissatisfaction among practitioners in the field of civil justice. There have been previous efforts at reform, notably by the review body on civil justice. But many of its proposals have not been implemented. The report produced last week by both branches of the profession has enabled us to outline our concerns and set out a blueprint for reform. We also sense an escalating awareness among the public of the need for radical change.

We can provide no magic wand, or an overnight solution. But we do believe much can be done to improve our system of civil justice.

At the heart of our proposals lies the need for a change in culture. Attitudes and ideas must change to meet the needs and expectations of

England's civil law system is long overdue for change. Hilary Heilbron, QC, writes

citizens living in a modern society. First, the purpose of litigation — what does the litigant want? The report emphasises that the philosophy of litigation must be recognised, by all who participate in it, to be primarily to encourage early settlement of disputes either through the court process or by alternative means of dispute resolution.

Few litigants relish the prospect of waiting years for their case to come to court and at great expense, yet many of our current procedures seem geared to this end. Litigants want their disputes resolved fairly, cheaply and quickly. We have, therefore, made recommendations relating to pre-trial procedure aimed at focusing the attention of parties and their lawyers at early stages on this principal goal. Similarly, we advocate a greater awareness of the advantages of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), especially mediation.

We have suggested a pilot scheme of court-annexed ADR, means to bring ADR techniques to the attention of lawyers, and even court-prompted ADR.

Second, cost and delay. To an extent these problems are inter-related. The longer the case takes before it settles — or if it does not, to try — the more costly it will be. If litigation is less expensive, then civil justice will become accessible to a larger section of the community. The legal aid bill will also be reduced, which it is hoped might lead to a reversal of the recent retrenchment in legal aid.

Delays of the kind now being experienced are, we believe, incompatible with justice. The only way to eliminate delays is through enforced court control: first, by judge-prompting of parties who delay and more judicial intervention. Parties, once they invoke the court process, should be forced to pro-

ceed with dispatch. Documents emanating from the court reminding them to do so and striking out their action if they do not is, we believe, the only way that parties and their lawyers will move away from their dilatory approach to much litigation.

But for this to be achieved there has to be an urgent investment in technology, something which is glaringly lacking at present.

The system of litigation in England and Wales is adversarial, unlike many systems on the Continent. Judges have historically acted only as relatively silent umpires. We believe that their role has to change, although we do not advocate a change in the basic adversarial approach. Judges need to intervene more at various stages of the process, take a firm grip on the conduct of proceedings and focus on relevant issues to reduce the wastage of court time and encourage earlier settlements.

Another cause of delay is inefficient and inflexible use of limited judicial resources. We have proposed more flexible use of judge power, for example by merging the Queen's Bench division and the Chancery division of the High Court into one Civil division of the High Court with various general and specialist lists and improved listing arrangements. We have sought to have more High Court justice around the country on the circuit rather than the concentration in London.

We have emphasised the need to limit court time to where it is essential and suggested judges' timetables be adjusted to allow them more time for pre-reading so as to avoid expensive and lengthy oral recitation of documents, affidavits and law reports in court.

Litigants often find the legal process intimidating and incomprehensible. We can see no justification for many of the complex, confusing and diffuse procedures that exist at present in both High Court and county court. We have therefore recommended, where possible, simplified and uniform procedures with explanations for the layman. There is a need for plain English instead of legal jargon.

We recognise that not all our recommendations will receive uni-



Burden of evidence: modern paperwork slows the courts' work

form approval, but the case for change, and radical change, is, in our view, unanswerable. These measures should speed the process of civil justice and make it more accessible, affordable and adaptable to society's needs and expectations. They also provide a

## Please mind your language in court

Since there may soon be two women justices on the Supreme Court of the United States, it is not surprising that the issue of honorifics has arisen. A Supreme Court justice used to be addressed as "Mr Justice", just as the president is "Mr President". But since 1981, when Justice Sandra Day O'Connor took office, the court let it be known that the "Mr" would no longer be used. "Justice" alone would be proper, or "Your Honour" would also be acceptable.

There has since been endless talk among lawyers about how to alter the treatment of women in the court system, particularly in the realm of formal legal language.

The controversy has even spread to England, where male judges are addressed in court as "My Lord" while female judges are addressed as "My Lady".

A rather sassy woman barrister told me recently that were she to become a judge, she wanted to be addressed as "My Lord" anyway, since this was her ultimate sexual fantasy.

Female barristers are ordinarily addressed as "Miss" or "Ms", but when they ascend the bench they are anomalously assigned the prefix "Mrs" whether married or not. Accordingly, they are known as "Mrs Justice X", whether married or not, and even if "X" is their maiden name.

Appellate judges in England are known as Lords Justices of Appeal, even in the case of Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss. Such an august personage is addressed in court as "My Lady" or "Your Ladyship" but, if identified in the third person, is referred to as "My Lady, Lord Justice X", a titular absurdity which may win the Most Pustillanous Award for Politically Correct Language.

In New York, where a woman chief judge presides over the Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, there is a judicially approved pamphlet presenting guidelines for the use of gender-neutral language. It emphasises that the "ambiguous" use ... of male terms to refer to both men and women does create confusion, sometimes with profound effects".

Thus, New York lawyers may be criticised if they use the generic

"he" in briefs to the court. They are told to "eliminate words and expressions that exclude women or perpetuate the assumption that men are the norm". Two leading university law reviews have taken a novel approach, using she and her as generic pronouns.

How far this may be carried is unknown, but it is possible that a "landlord" in New York may no longer sue for rent. Such a party might only be the "owner". A "battered wife" may no longer complain; only the gender-free "battered spouse" will have rights. Criminal lawyers may not plead-bargain a charge from "murder" to "manslaughter". The language police could insist on a "lesser degree of homicide".

The New York guidelines echo a work entitled *The Elements of Legal Style* by Bryan A. Garner (Oxford University Press). Mr Garner's sage advice to lawyers who wish to write effectively is to "inject your writing with some honest feeling", "sharpen your argument by building a reason in to your thesis", "get to the point", "avoid purple prose", "use clichés with caution" and, finally, "root out sexist language".

The *Blas-Free Word Finder*, a non-discriminatory dictionary by Rosalie Maggie, says that new usage requires avoidance of "king", "lord" and "master", not only because these are "male-oriented words" but also because they are "hierarchical dominator society terms".

It may be exceedingly difficult for a lawyer, trained for years in a mode of expression now perceived as sexist, to change his or her ways. But a noted scholar of language and gender suggests that when we change old habits of speech we are doing nothing less than creating a "new language that speaks more fairly and clearly of us all".

Meanwhile, all are committed to an ideal of justice embodied, long before the age of political correctness, as a blindfolded woman carrying a book in one hand and a set of evenly balanced scales in the other.

JAMES D. ZIRIN

● The author is a litigator with Breed, Abbott & Morgan, a New York law firm.

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## 36 LAW REPORT

## Court of Appeal

## Role of judge at trial

**Regina v Marsh**  
Before Lord Taylor of Gossforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Ognall and Mr Justice Sedley (Judgment July 1)

It was most undesirable that judges should interrupt a witness, particularly a defendant, when giving evidence-in-chief or being cross-examined.

The Lord Chief Justice so stated when giving the judgment of the Court of Appeal on an appeal by Paul Marsh, aged 27, against conviction at Knightsbridge Crown Court (Judge Coory and a jury) of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition of importation of a controlled drug, for which he was sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

Mr Stephen Holt, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Tony Docking for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that of the eight grounds of appeal the important one was that the judge continually interrupted counsel during the trial and, in particular, the appellant during his evidence.

Mr Holt had noted more than 90 separate interventions in examination-in-chief and during cross-examination, making it impossible to present the defence in a coherent and proper manner.

His Lordship read a passage from *R v Hulst* (1973) 58 Cr App R

378, 383: "It is a fundamental principle of an English trial that, if an accused gives evidence, he must be allowed to do so without being interrupted and interrupted."

Judges should remember that most people go into the witness-box, whether they be witnesses for the Crown or the defence, in a state of nervousness. They are anxious to do their best. They expect to receive a courteous hearing, and when they find, almost as soon as they get into the witness-box and are starting to tell their story, that the judge of all people is intervening in a hostile way, then, human nature being what it is, they are liable to become confused and not to do as well as they would have done had they not been badgered and interrupted."

Their Lordships would agree with every word of that. Indeed, they commended it to the judges in the present case and to judges

generally. It was most undesirable that judges should interrupt a witness, particularly a defendant, when giving evidence-in-chief or when he was being cross-examined.

The whole purpose of the adversarial process was that the judge sat and held the ring. It was for counsel on each side to conduct examination and cross-examination and for the judge to see that they did it fairly.

It was most undesirable for the judge to anticipate cross-examination or to interrupt the flow of evidence-in-chief of the witness.

However, their Lordships had to consider the interests of justice. The judge's direction and summing up put the defence and the prosecution cases fairly. The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

## Knowledge fixes cause of action

**Broadley v Guy Clapham &**

A person alleging medical negligence was fixed with a cause of action when she knew, or could have known with the help of medical advice reasonably obtainable, that her injury had been caused by damage resulting from something done or not done by the surgeon during her operation. Knowledge detailed enough to

enable the plaintiff's advisers to draft a statement of claim was not required before time began to run.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Leggatt and Lord Justice Hoffmann) so held on July 2 when dismissing an appeal by Mrs Maureen Broadley from a finding by Mr Justice Turner on March 24, 1992 that she had no cause of action against Guy Clapham Ltd,

## Law Report July 6 1993

## Defence to unlawful advertisements

**Edmonds v Merton London Borough Council**  
**Tyndall v Same**

In section 22(4) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 the words "knowledge or consent" were to be construed disjunctively so that even though a person had or had acquired knowledge of the display of an advertisement, it was still open to him to establish a defence by reason of the fact that he had not consented to it.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Buckley) so held on June 22 when allowing an appeal by way of case stated of Richard Edmonds and John Tyndall and quashing the decision of Kingston upon Thames Justices to convict them of displaying an advertisement without consent from the

local planning authority contrary to regulations 5 and 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations (SI 1989 No 670) and section 22(4) of the 1990 Act.

MR JUSTICE BUCKLEY said that Mr Edmonds was the South London regional organiser of the British National Party of which Mr Tyndall was the chairman.

Neither had given consent for the display of the advertisement and only knew of its existence after receiving a letter from the local council requesting that it be removed.

The justices had concluded that once the appellants had received the letters they had responsibility to remove the advertisement or become guilty of an offence.

The answer turned on the proper construction of section 22(4) which provided a defence for those who proved that the display was made without the knowledge or consent of the offender.

For someone to become guilty of a criminal offence simply on acquiring knowledge on a state of affairs for which he was not responsible was quite contrary to the fundamental principles of criminal law.

The overall purpose of the 1990 Act therefore had to be looked at if it were not to lead to a manifest absurdity.

## Refugee returned to first stop in Community

**Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department**  
**Ex parte Mehmet Colak**

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Evans (Judgment June 28)

Where a non-EC national came to the United Kingdom as a refugee, after passing in transit through another member state of the Community, the Secretary of State for the Home Department was entitled to follow his existing practice by returning him to that member state for his application for political asylum to be determined there.

The Court of Appeal so held in refusing a renewed application for leave to apply for judicial review of a decision of the secretary of state after a refusal of the application by Mr Mehmet Colak.

Mr Michael Supperstone, QC and Mr Declan O'Dempsey for the applicant; Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Mark Shaw for the secretary of state.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the applicant, Mr Mehmet Colak, was a Turkish Kurd born in 1967. He sought political asylum because of the treatment of Turkish Kurds in Turkey.

On June 18, with the assistance

of an organisation in Turkey he left that country on a flight which took him to Paris. He wanted to come here to claim political asylum because he had two sisters living here.

He did not claim political asylum at Paris. He remained in a transit lounge before being taken on another plane to Heathrow, where he claimed political asylum.

His claim had not been considered because it was the view of the immigration authorities that under the unratified Dublin Convention and the policy followed by the secretary of state, the claim should be considered by France as the first country to which he went after leaving Turkey.

In the view of the Home Office, if he was returned to France his application would there be fairly considered, but if France was not prepared to consider the application he would not be returned to Turkey before the claim had been considered in some other safe country, which in the circumstances was likely to be here.

The point taken by Mr Supperstone was that, as a result of article 8a of the EEC Treaty, as inserted by article 13 of the Single European Act (OJ 1987 No L169 p1026), incorporated into the European Communities Act 1972 by the

European Communities (Amendment) Act 1988, there was no power to return the applicant from one member state to another.

Article 8a provided: "The Community shall adopt measures with the aim of progressively establishing the internal market over a period expiring on December 31, 1992, in accordance with the provisions of this article... The internal market shall comprise an area without internal frontiers in which the free movement of persons... is entered in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty."

The applicant was never admitted into France so as to be lawfully there, except in transit. Therefore there was no basis for saying that the applicant had achieved the position in which he could claim the direct application of article 8a to himself.

Thus the article was no answer to the secretary of state's claim to be able to follow his existing practice in the applicant's case by returning him to France for his asylum application to be determined there.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Evans agreed.

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**OPERA page 38**  
Susan Bisatt, Rimbaud's  
sister in the premiere of  
composer Kevin  
Volans's first opera

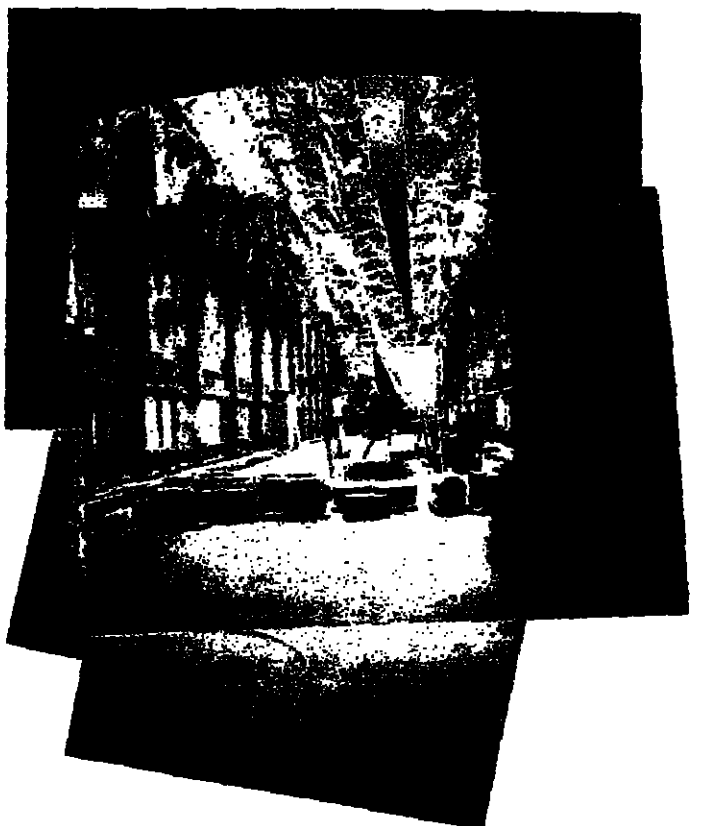
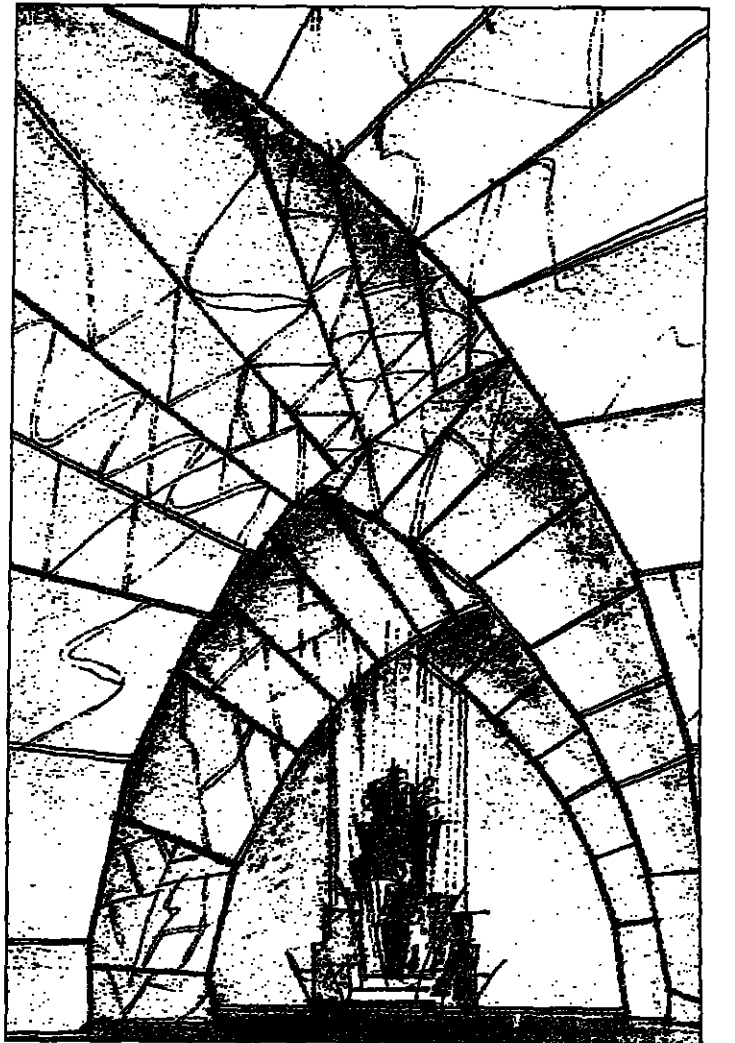
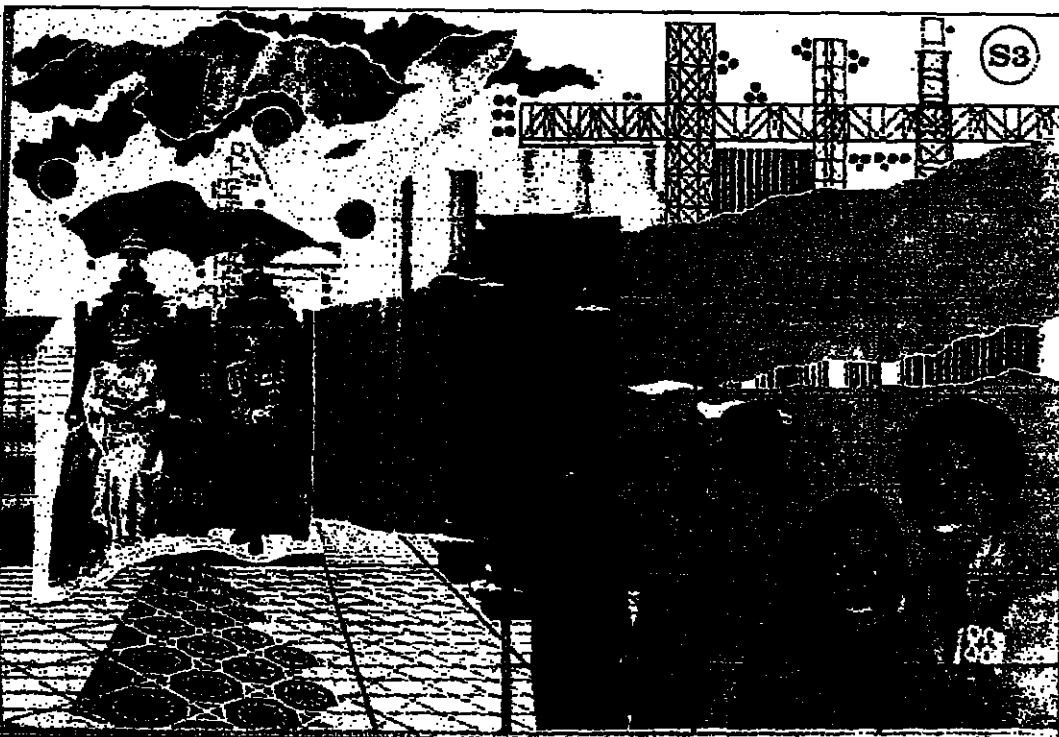
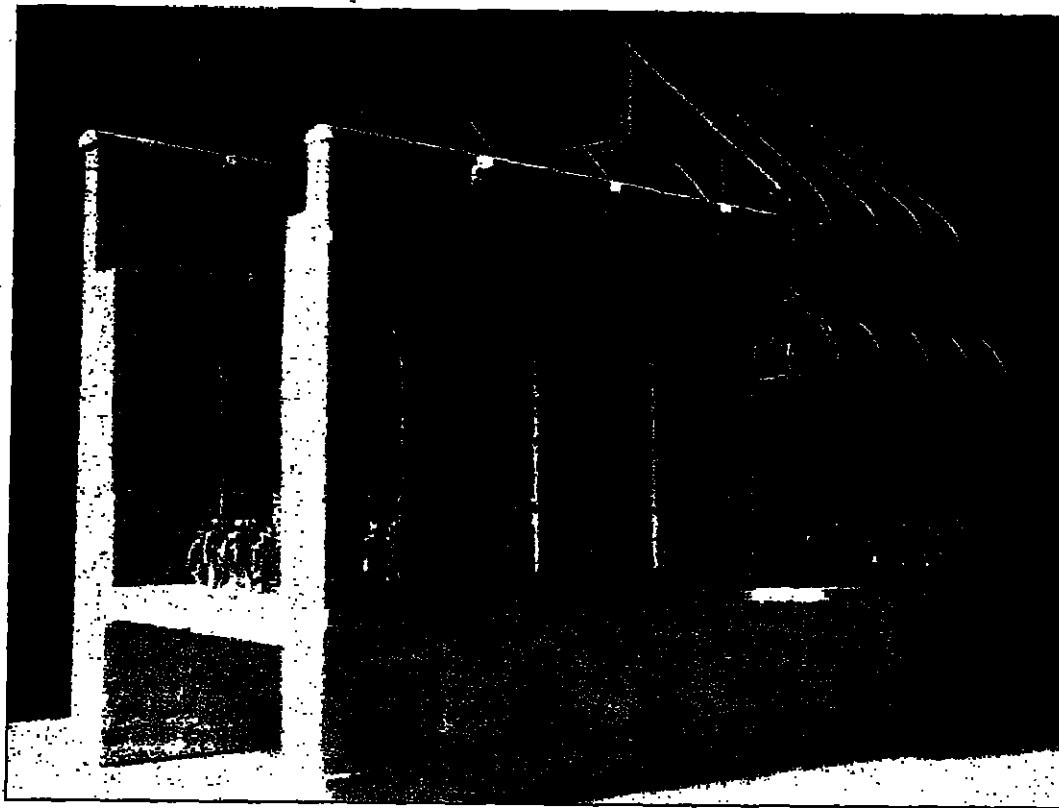
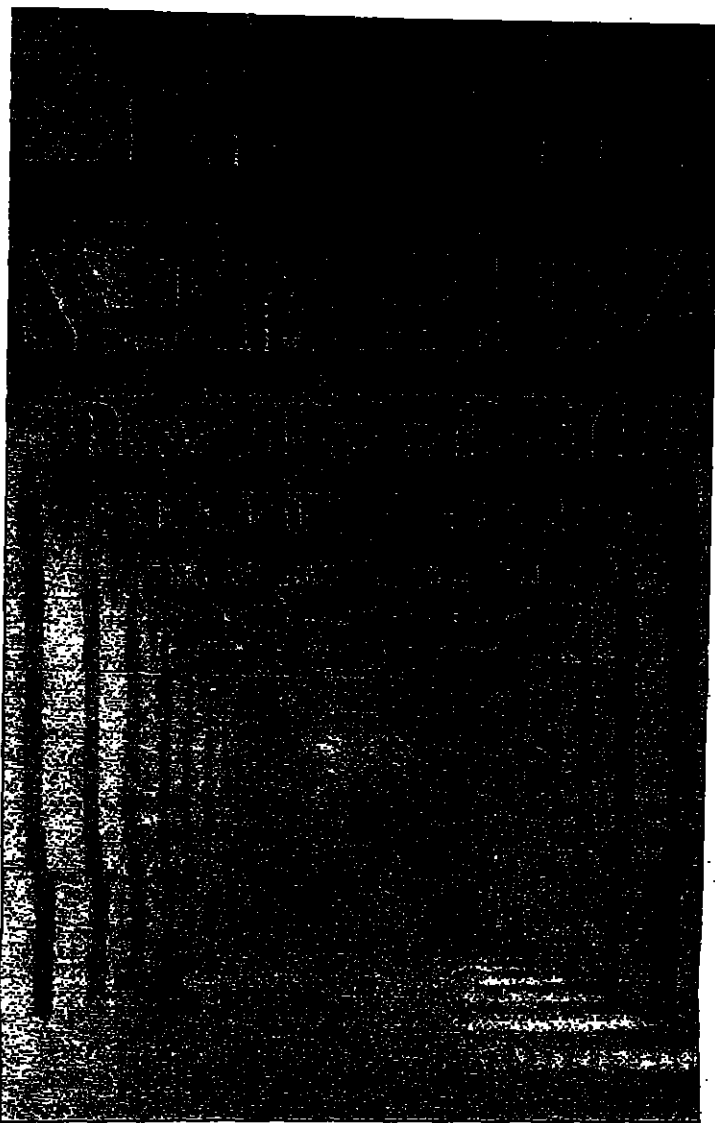
# ARTS

**DANCE page 39**  
Natalia Makarova,  
former principal  
ballerina, at a Kirov  
Ballet masterclass



**HERITAGE: Marcus Binney on suggestions, outlandish or inspired, for the restoration of Windsor Castle**

## After the fire, the sparklers



David Chipperfield's timber roof, above left; Sir Denys Lasdun's glass and stainless steel, top; Ron Herron's "Queen as superstar — the castle as movie stage", above

The debate on the future of St George's Hall takes on fresh intensity with the publication of ten radical schemes in a book to be published next week on Windsor Castle. Mark Girouard, the author of *Windsor: The Most Romantic Castle* (Hodder and Stoughton, £20), has risked all in a final chapter by inviting lighting engineers and stage designers as well as architects and artists for ideas.

Some of the designs, at first glance, seem positively absurd, simply cooking a snook at the institution of monarchy. But they pose the question, particularly difficult with damaged plasterwork, of how far to conserve as found, and how far to reinstate. A full restoration to the status quo before the fire is not considered by Girouard. Yet it may be the cheapest option. He is evidently inclined to agree with Windsor Castle's historian, St John Hope, who called St George's Hall "this preposterous apartment".

Girouard's agenda, therefore, is rather different from that of the Lord Chamberlain who, on April 29, proposed that the room should be restored to its pre-fire state — though he did allow a further consideration of the form of the ceiling. Some 300 of the oak garter shields that embellished the Wyndham roof, created for George IV in the early 19th century, have been salvaged and could be reinstated, completing the full roll-call of 911 knights, with one permanent left blank because its holder was struck off for heinous crimes.

The first of the ten proposals in Girouard's book pairs Sir Denys Lasdun, the National Theatre architect, with the sculptor Sir Eduardo Paolozzi. Lasdun says the hall "should be a memorial to the fire". He covers it with a glass and stainless steel roof "like a winter garden, suggesting the more open monarchy that is to be".

The submission from artist Alan Fletcher, complete with ink-blot text, seems pure, Molesworthian schoolboy fun. His is a nightclub vision with film, video and slide images projected on the interior, telling its history and showing the new proposals. He is a "gutted and charred remains" man but, curiously, his spotlighting might do much to highlight the quality of Wyndham's surviving work.

Richard MacCormac, immediate past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, has designed an elaborate modern counterpart of a gothic ribbed vault, with bronze tracery and polychrome timber, though the computer drawings suggest something closer to illuminated manuscript. In practical terms, the main drawback is that the ribs of MacCormac's roof spring from a point lower than Wyndham's, requiring the removal of fine bosses which miraculously survived the fire.

The architect David Chipperfield proposes a Japanese-style timber roof of massive square beams and posts. Though at odds with Wyndham's pointed arches, it is so lofty and imposing that it might add grandeur. It is presumably

ruled out, however, by the official decision that the new roof should be no higher than the previous one.

The team of Mark Fisher, who has designed rock shows for Pink Floyd and the Rolling Stones, and Stuart Hopps, who glories in driving a silver 1973 Cadillac Coupe de Ville, claim the fire "has destroyed 500 years of self-aggrandising myth creation" and "left the authentic Plantagenet hall and chapel as a ruin".

(Actually what has been exposed is a patchwork of brick and stone of many dates.) They would cover the ceiling with gold-coated film. At state banquets before the fire the Queen would often draw the attention of visiting heads of state to Garter arms awarded to their own kings in previous centuries. Fisher and Hopps feel this is archaic and have opened a slit running the length of the roof precisely aligned on the flight-path to Heathrow. Presumably the Queen would now remark to her guests something along the lines of: "The Aeroflot flight from Moscow, Mr Yeltsin".

Tom McPhillips wholly dispenses with every trace of Wyndham. He is a scenic designer specialising in pop videos and has designed tours for Michael Jackson and Diana Ross. He continues in

the same mode at Windsor. He provides a choice with two dark Odeon cinema-type interiors with giant, wineglass columns illuminated from within and a forest of crystal tubes dangling from the roof.

In one design, fans of coloured glass form a perspective of pointed arches focusing on a throne. With theme parks in mind he also proposes a 120 foot-long "royal wave" machine along the window wall, with a giant crown perpetually tossed through the surf.

The most serious and austere proposal comes from Michael Hopkins. His ingenious 3-D timber tracery roof, based on the Garter Star, is an inspired solution. But the proportions and pattern will need the greatest refinement if it is not to end up like the 1950s vault of Eton College Chapel, sitting uncomfortably on earlier walls.

Hopkins, one suspects, would not want his simple lines confused with hundreds of heraldic shields. By contrast, Tom Phillips and Nicola Hicks rise precisely to this challenge. Their whole roof consists of nothing but a blazing canopy of Garter shields, all in stained glass, bonded together without any leading to darken the impact. At night they would be lit from behind. Given the spectacular

success of Patrick Heron's lendless glass window at the new Tate at St Ives, this is an idea to explore.

Eric Parry transforms the Hall into Cambridge Modern with a flat roof and bare walls enlivened only by Mantegna's *Triumph of Caesar* cartoons, from Hampton Court. Ron Herron, from whom one might expect a high-tech roof of tented fabric, had time only to dash off a few notes in the shorthand style beloved by architects: "Queen as superstar — the castle as movie stage".

The key, ultimately, is that whatever path is chosen, it must be followed with conviction. The proper starting point is an evaluation of the quality of the Wyndham work. Some have scorned this far too readily. Now the scaffolding is up inside, much of the plasterwork transpires to be of considerable beauty and finesse. Paul Drury, of English Heritage, says the figure of St George at the end of the hall "has the quality of the best sculpture rather than decorative plasterwork". The crouched knights on the ceiling corbels are exquisitely modelled. First-class photographs of all these details should be taken and displayed to show what is at stake.

John Thornycroft, of English Heritage, estimates that some 40 per cent of the Wyndham work survives. At the chapel end the destruction was almost total, but after the first four windows the wall decoration survives to a rapidly increasing degree.

Remarkably, almost all the furniture and armour was out of the hall

at the time of the fire and could be returned. If desired, the room could be created very much as it was before. But whether the approach is conserved-as-found or complete reinstatement, there will be surviving plasterwork which is so fragile it will require museum-standard conservation or have to be removed.

In the past, government agencies working on public buildings have tended to err on the side of renewal. Many of the statues on the Houses of Parliament have been recared once or twice — the earlier versions often ending up in MPs' gardens.

This was done in the belief that modern craftsmen could produce Gothic Revival detail by the yard just as well as Victorian ones. Now works of art are valued precisely because they are in an unrestored state. An increasingly sophisticated public is as interested in seeing original decorative work (even if fragmentary) as in complete schemes of decoration renewed to look as though just completed.

No solution is going to be easy, and Girouard courts ridicule by parading such outlandish solutions with so little explanation, but he does a service by showing there is more than one acceptable way forward. Meanwhile, next week's edition of *Country Life* magazine publishes the result of its own competition on St George's Hall.

The conviction that is needed to achieve lasting success can only come from the Royal Household and the royal family, who run the castle and live and work in it. They need to show an open mind, to explain their eventual choices, and then give their chosen designer the fullest support. The greatest danger is an ever more watered-down compromise, as proposals are continuously amended to appease the whims of yet another committee.

Designs from the Girouard book and the Country Life competition will be on show at the Architecture Foundation, 30 Bury Street, London SW1 (071-839 9389) from July 16 to August 29

**'Whatever the path chosen, it must be followed with conviction'**

## On a sound footing if music comes first

Although not every performer at the Glasgow International Jazz Festival is strictly jazz, Clive Davis thinks it probably the best of its kind in Britain

Oscar Peterson had already cancelled his visit due to illness, and Nina Simone also pulled out at short notice after a fire destroyed her home. It says something for the range and depth of this annual jamboree that the loss of two major crowd-pullers was nowhere near a fatal blow.

Glasgow can make a strong claim to be the best of Britain's jazz festivals, up there along with the cosy, bucolic gathering at Brecon. Others have become a form of municipal window dressing, with a collection of big names seemingly thrown together at random. In this city you have the impression that the music lovers are still in charge.

Spread over 11 days, this year's event also benefited from the decision to focus the concerts in a cluster of city

centre venues, giving fans an opportunity to stroll from one blowing session to another. In the process the organisers have also unearthed a splendid venue in the wrought iron setting of the McEwan's Fruitmarket on Albion Street.

The big success there on Saturday night was Don Pullen's African-Brazilian Connection. Normally a quiet, the group had to go on-stage without its Senegalese percussionist Mor Thiam who was, it seems, stranded in Düsseldorf without a work permit. Undeterred, the rest of the band gave a high-energy display which carried them through to a midnight encore. A pianist with one foot in the

avant-garde camp, Pullen has a knack of finding populist vehicles for his cluster-bomb keyboard technique. His current ensemble is perhaps the most accessible and joyful of them all, drawing on Latin rhythms and simplified, gospel-like chord progressions. That sometimes led to over-extended vamps and flaccid, lightweight bossa nova. Fortunately, Pullen had the services of Carlos Ward, an inspired saxophonist who has been the mainstay of many an Abdullah Ibrahim or Don Cherry line-up. His probing, melodically-inclined improvisations seldom wasted a note.

David Murray, of course, belongs to the other extreme. Hailed as the spiritual successor to Coltrane and Albert Ayler, he crams a year's stock of phrases into even the briefest solo. In the right setting — his Octet, for example — his playing takes on a certain grandeur, but his set with the bass player Fred Hopkins and the drummer Andrew Cyrille was a much more grunting and monochrome affair.

It was always possible to sneak away, somewhat guiltily, to hear Dionne Warwick at the Royal Concert Hall. True, it was not jazz — not even using the present Jazz FM definition of the word — and most of the new songs do

not hold a candle to the Burt Bacharach-Hal David classics. But there is no other voice quite as exquisite as hers. A string section was in place, as ever, behind her band, but Warwick really did not need it.

The day had begun back at the Fruitmarket with a solo set from the dependable Joe Pass. Despite recent illness, his ear for show tunes seems as sharp as ever, though his duet with fellow guitarist Martin Taylor proved a disappointment, partly because the tempo was too frenetic, partly because their styles are simply too close to generate real tension.

Some ten hours later, in the early hours of Sunday morning, bleary-eyed enthusiasts

could totter down the stairs of the Musicians Union Basement Club at the 13th Note, one of the several fringe venues, to hear Dave O'Higgins. Playing in authentically smoky surroundings, the young tenor player was given discreet support from the trio led by the pianist Brian Kellock. O'Higgins himself sounds more and more authoritative and controlled on each outing. As a night-cap, it was just about ideal.

Still to come before the festival ends on Sunday: Ahmad Jamal is at the Fruitmarket tonight; Brecker Brothers are there tomorrow; Carol Kidd on Thursday; Betty Carter on Sunday. At the Royal Concert Hall, B.B. King on Thursday is followed by Tony Bennett on Friday and Stephanie Grappell on Saturday.

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**THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale sees Brian Friel in wistful mood; Kate Bassett hardly recognises Chekhov**

## Dancing with tears in their eyes

The last time we paid a visit to Ballybeg, the imaginary Donegal village where Brian Friel has set so many of his plays, it was to discover that paganism vestigially survived beneath the polite Christian surface. Come harvest time, fires were still being lit and cattle ceremonially driven through them.

But *Dancing at Lughnasa* was set in 1936, and Friel's melancholy *Wonderful Tennessee*, which occurs in 1993 or thereabouts, suggests that the village and its druidical practices have fallen on hard times. The old rituals are mere folk memories, vaguely associated with an uninhabited island just off the coast.

In *Wonderful Tennessee*, there are no participants, no celebrants, just voyeurs afflicted with an amorphous sense of loss. The characters, three couples from Dublin, come to visit the island, only to end up spending the night amid rotting crates and bust lobster pots on Ballybeg's derelict pier. They drink and sing a lot, tell tall stories and stare helplessly out to sea, complaining about a ferryman who is called Carlin but proves even more elusive than his namesake, Charon. They also reveal a good deal about their own unsatisfying earnings and unsatisfying lives.

That places the play in a distinctive tradition, one that runs from Synge's *Well of the Saints* and *Playboy of the Western World* through O'Casey's *Juno and the Paycock* and Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* to Friel's own *Translations*, *Faith Healer* and *Lughnasa*. The great Irish dramatists, among whom I am increasingly inclined to count Friel, have often suggested that fantasy, imagination, escapist dreams have a pull for their compatriots with which nothing in reality can compete. And from the

moment they enter, gamely chorusing "Happy Days Are Here Again", you know that for these characters, too, reality is something well worth avoiding.

Terry, whose oddball birthday party this is, is an unremarkable bookie in financial and emotional trouble. Donal McCann plays him with a mix of toughness, cynicism and defeat, mournfully making it clear that he is more drawn to his uneasily married sister-in-law (Catherine Byrne) than to his suicidal wife (Ingrid Craigie). Add Robert Black as a failed pianist dying of throat cancer, and you have a group pretty vulnerable to the allure of an "island of otherness and mystery".

The play is already slated to follow *Lughnasa* to Broadway, but, for all the excellence of Patrick Mason's cast, it is unlikely to make as strong an impact either there or in London. This time, Friel has put more emotional distance between himself and his people and placed them in a less intensely evocative situation. The result has its touching moments, but it does not ache deep within, as *Lughnasa* did.

All the same, how often do we see plays which explain alienation in terms of lost belief and frustrated spiritual need? How often nowadays do we hear characters talking of "a rage for the absolute" or a "desire for the ineffable, the ineffable"?

We leave them forlornly hanging a scarf, a pair of braces and other unlikely votive offerings on a rough, cruciform post. Then they add their personal stones to a tiny cairn in the middle of the pier, circle it, and depart for Dublin. Whatever the reservations, that moment is quintessential Friel: elegiac, wistful, magic.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



It's my party and I'll eventually cry if I want to: Donal McCann as Terry in *Wonderful Tennessee*

## Sisters several times removed

Stanislavsky would probably be appalled were he around to see what the Wooster Group are getting up to with Anton Chekhov. The way they treat *The Three Sisters*, it's not natural. These avant-garde New Yorkers are a world away from the scrupulous realism prized in those turn-of-the-century productions by the Moscow Arts Theatre.

These actors, seemingly, are not prepared at all. The production team, sitting upstage, grumbles that no one knows their lines. The cast deliver speeches fast and tonally flat and Kate Valk, who hosts the show, stands in for "absent" actors and describes the townhouse setting while we look at a lighting scaffold and lino floor strewn with electric cables.

Maybe we are in a recording studio. Characters appear on tele-

simulating: bold and endlessly unexpected without being ostentatious: brilliantly illuminating as often as it is obscure. The piece is the theatrical equivalent of the Pompidou Centre. It exposes the normally concealed workings of stagecraft and of Chekhov's play. Vershinin's philosophising about an ideal future is not slipped in as small talk. It is done as set

Brace Up!  
Riverside Studios

vision screens more often than on stage, so much so in fact that separate televisions end up talking to each other. Alternatively, as if for radio, the cast play their parts vocally only, talking into a microphone with their backs to us.

The Wooster Group go all out for Brechtian Alienation. Sometimes they are so downright strange it is like encountering a theatre company from outer space. Essentially, though, Alienation switches on the audience's critical faculties and short circuits emotional involvement. *Brace Up!* takes a scalpel to sentimentality. The three sisters' nostalgia for Moscow and their military admirers' declarations of love are ironically run in tandem with snippets from Japanese films.

The Wooster Group are partly criticising Chekhov with wry irreverence and 20th-century sang-froid. Yet they can go with the flow, acting emotionally and exploiting mood-music. Really they are beautifully sensitive to Chekhov's own delicate balance between taking his characters seriously and satirising them.

*Brace Up!* is not easy watching. The company throw down the gauntlet to the audience aesthetically and intellectually. If you take up the challenge, their work is hugely



Kate Valk: kaleidoscopic

speeches, amplified like an American president's public address.

The Wooster Group have got their technology down to a T, and their acting is a superbly crafted imitation of unprofessionalism. Willen Dafoe (Andrei) is delightful. Ron Vawter is fantastically funny as Vershinin and Valk is a kaleidoscope of acting styles from naturalism to Noh.

KATE BASSETT

### TELEVISION

## Barks worse than their bite

From the boy who cried wolf via the werewolf to wolves in sheep's clothing, neither myth nor metaphor has been kind to the wolf. A graceful and pin-sharp animal, the wolf has somehow contrived a bad press.

Wolf whistle is an odd one: where does that come from? Not from the sound a wolf makes, which is more reminiscent of avant-garde alto saxophone than anything emanating from a scaffold erector greeting a mini-skirt.

I fell to this musing while watching a tape of last night's *In The Wild* (ITV). Outside my window a full moon was rising over the opening titles, so that for a moment the window view and the screen image had me confused: they had sent me *The Late Show* by mistake.

But soon Timothy Dalton appeared, so this could not be culture. The great thing about being the last James Bond is that no matter what the critics had to say, there will be no shortage of requests to do celebrity adventure programmes. Not that Dalton is mere voice-over material: he went there, on occasion aboard a Bond-like snowmobile.

He also utilised the narrow-eyed and the wide smile, sometimes simultaneously. He did everything expected of a former Bond except get the girl, there being no girl to get. He got the wolf, though. It took time, but it was worth the wait. For all that nature films on television have become



Alas, poor wolf: Timothy Dalton and dead dumb chum

brilliantly commonplace, for all that there is no much that jumps, flies, runs, swims or slithers that we have not now seen from every angle, this was nonetheless a smashing piece of work.

They built the tension well. Clearly a lot of money had been spent, the piece even started out in California in order that Dalton could tell us there were no wolves there. Cut to Montana. Here they

were reintroducing wolves, but not to this camera crew. But up in the Canadian Arctic, 1,000 miles north of the nearest tree, here the Arctic Wolf could be found and studied, if you had the right guide.

His name is David Meech and he has patience fit to embarrass a saint. He can sit for hours in the seat of his snowmobile, quieter than an ambush. Occasionally he takes two deep breaths, cups his hands around his mouth and raises his face to the sky. And howls. And a wolf, yes, answers (although he doesn't know what it said).

The wolf family approaches. Nobody runs, nobody gets eaten. The wolves sniff at the snowmobile wheels and at Dalton's outstretched hand. They mooch around for a bit, the mum, the dad and the cubs, and then they trot away.

So much for the big bad wolf. But who to blame for the myth? European settlers wiped out the wolf from the western United States, using guns, traps and poison, for no better reason than that the animal was feared in Europe, probably because of a few that caught rabies.

There has been no proven case of a wolf in good health doing away with a human being, although they tend to make a meal of one's livestock: a few chickens, the occasional dog. We should learn to respect the wolf. All it really lacks is a catchy howl.

PETER BARNARD

## Familiarity breeds sell-outs

Swan Lake  
Coliseum

ALAS for our British addition to three-act ballets in general and *Swan Lake* in particular. Alas, also, for impresarios' increasing reluctance to wean us away from them. It means that, except for one performance of a mixed bill, the Kirov's five-week London season is devoted to exploiting the broadest popular demands and places due emphasis on *Swan Lake*.

That said, there are far worse ways (but few more expensive) of spending three hours of your life. The Kirov's *Swan Lake*, evolved from a long succession of revisionist hands, comes across as attractive and straightforward, even though, like most Russian productions, it skimps on dramatic detail.

Nowhere, for example, does the queen mother tell her son he must marry, although that fact forms the pivot of the story. Mime has been eroded and performers go in for silent (or not so silent) mouthing: courtiers waiting to greet the queen stand conspicuously whispering comments out of the corner of their mouths.

The first two casts were not ideal. Yulia Makhalina, the most favoured of the young principals, should have been partnered by Konstantin Zaklinsky; but Zaklinsky and the company's leading ballerina, Alfyntsiy Asymuratova, were in a London hospital with a newly born daughter. Instead Makhalina appeared opposite Alexander Kurkov, tall enough to match her long limbs, but rather stolid in his



Natalia Makarova, the former Kirov ballerina, teaches a Kirov masterclass at the London Coliseum, where the company is resident until July 31. The charity event raised more than £22,000 for homeless and HIV-infected children in St Petersburg

dancing, although he has the lifting continuum of movement that is a feature of Russian training. Alexander Gulyaev, at the next day's matinee, made a stronger impression, mixing charm with elegance, clear, open contours with a soaring jump.

Neither of these princes established a memorable rapport with their ballerinas, two Odette-Odiles who approached their twin roles from opposite ends. Gulyaev's swan princess, Irina Nioradze, dark and curvaceous, focused on the human side; she did not seem intent on complex characterisation as either

Odette or Odile, but simply came on and danced with a strained style that marked her out, at this showing, as a musical if unexciting all-rounder. Makhalina, small head poised on a long swan neck, was an exotic bird, feral and remote, her face set into a mask. As a concept it did not allow enough emotion to crack through; and was further limited by a glossy presentation and self-consciously flamboyant technique of sweeping arms and lines. Her Odile fared better, presenting a more outgoing, alluring persona, despite flinging herself into the

fastest, most weirdly mechanical 32 *fouettés* in the business.

This being the Kirov, general standards of technique come high. Neat landings, firmly centred pirouettes are taken for granted, as well as subtle contrasts of speed and texture from one movement to another. Not many companies can field two such satisfying trios in the first act *pas de trois*. A pity that the programme on both occasions failed to identify them correctly. Could not the management notify the audience of any cast changes?

NADINE MEISNER

### FESTIVAL: Top-class musical performers at Gregynog in deepest Powys

## Welsh rare hits

HIDDEN deep in ancient oak and beechwoods in the heart of mid-Wales is a week-long festival whose fusion of the minutely local and the broadly international is unique in Britain. At Gregynog, a mock-Tudor mansion just north of Newtown in Powys, the evening of Welsh music and poetry has one longing to embark on a language course forthwith: the vocal masterclasses, drawing students and young professionals worldwide, feed into the week's musical activities.

Gwyl Gregynog, now in its fifth year, was the brainchild of tenor Anthony Rolfe Johnson, who remains the festival's artistic director. He, though, was only rekindling the embers of a flame which had burned brightly in the years between the two world wars. Then, the great house was privately owned by the philanthropic Davies sisters, Gwen-doline and Margaret, who, much in the spirit of William

Morris's Arts and Crafts movement, opened their home as a centre of art and music-making which attracted the likes of Elgar, Shaw and Lascelles Abercrombie.

A visitor to the 1936 Gregynog Festival of 1936 wrote: "To dream over the opal-like Mo-nets, or look out on to lawns, trees and sky, was to realise a little of the Greek idyll of the inseparability of Art and Nature." Now the Monets are in the National Museum of Wales and since 1964 Gregynog has been a residential centre of the University of Wales. The private printing press, though, widely considered the finest in Britain, is still going strong, and its clatter is part of the distinctive music of Gregynog.

This year saw an affirmation of what has so far distinguished the festival: it

self: busy days of seminars and masterclasses, the prize-winning premiere performance of the festival's own Composer's Award of Wales, and a resounding and traditional oratorio performance.

Andrew Keeling, along with 47 other entrants, took on the challenge of writing a short work for saxophone quartet and triumphed with his *Wrestling with Angels*. The Apollo Saxophone Quartet gave it a polished and perceptive first performance in a demanding programme ranging from Michael Nyman to Chick Corea. And it must not be the last. Keeling's work, four movements based on four "encounters" with angels, literary and artistic, is striking in its vivid, purposeful use of tonal harmonic language, and constantly compelling in its imaginative understanding of

the contrasting character of each saxophone. It should, and doubtless will, enter the repertoire without more ado. Keeling has a new work for strings, harp and cimbalom being premiered at St John's Smith Square in October: watch out for it.

The Davies sisters of yore may well have raised a prim eyebrow or two at much that went on that evening. But they, and the present capacity audience, could not have failed to have been delighted with this year's finale, *Israel in Egypt*. Rolfe Johnson, midway between Aldeburgh and Salzburg, took up the baton for Handel, and conducted the New Company Chamber Choir and the excellent period instruments of the Manchester-based Orchestra of the Golden Age in a refreshingly unselfconscious yet sophisticated and vigorous closing performance.

HILARY FINCH

## Campion the wonder

ARTS BRIEFING

days. Who better to answer than Frank Rich, drama critic of *The New York Times*?

The "Butcher of Broadway" can be heard in conversation with our own Benedict Nightingale on the Royal Court stage on Thursday at 6pm. Trenchant views promised.

### Prize Fish

THE film version of DV8 Physical Theatre's dance piece *Strange Fish*, directed by David Hinton and financed by the BBC, has won the IMZ

Dance Screen prize for best camera reworking of existing stage choreography. The film was part of a large British contingent among 175 entries in the dance film showcase in Frankfurt.

The British choreographer and director Alison Murray won the category for experimental film. *Duet With Automobiles* (choreographer Shobana Jeyasingh, director Terry Braun) and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner* (choreographer William Tuckett, director Milfed Ellis), both

from the BBC-Arts Council "Dance for the Camera" project, were among eight entries short-listed for the category of dance conceived for camera: but the jury could not agree on a winner. These two and *Strange Fish* will be shown on BBC2.

### Last chance...

PETER Shaffer's *Gift of the Gorgon* divided the critics but there were few doubts about the quiet power of Judi Dench, playing the wife of Michael Pennington's Welsh-irish dramatist, a man with a killer-bee in his bonnet about terrorism and the virtues of retribution. Peter Hall's production ends Saturday at Wyndham's (071-867 1116).



# Essex resist Kent's frantic final surge

By JACK BAILEY

MAIDSTONE (final day of four): Kent (6pts) drew with Essex (6)

A THRILLING day's play ended with the result that was always the least likely. Until John Childs joined Michael Gurnham for the last five overs to play out time, the prospect of a draw was far from anyone's mind. First Essex seemed to have the match won when Prichard and Stephenson, facing the task set by Benson's declaration of scoring 341 from 81 overs, put on 185 for the first wicket at near enough the asking rate. Essex were still in the hunt with Pringle at the wicket and 43 needed from the last five wickets and seven overs left. But the inexperience in this Essex side cost them dear as in one spell

they lost four wickets for seven runs in three overs. One by one they fell to Davis, bowling his left-arm spinners over the wicket with six men on the leg side, and to the cunning Hooper who varied his pace intelligently. In the end, it looked all over a win for Kent and it probably would have been, too, had Parks been able to gather a difficult left-side ball from Davis which had left Gurnham stranded yards down the wicket when he and Pringle were still chasing.

The eight fielders gathered round Childs as the last few overs were played out must have known in their hearts that there would be no pickings at the death. Childs has been there many times his forward defensive was immaculate. It was all that was needed on this pitch, a better

to the end, and the vultures were left hungry.

Not that Essex could feel anything but disappointed. Benson's declaration on this beautiful wicket with an outfield like green glass had been Wisacre's talking of its extreme generosity. For a long time, they seemed to be right. Prichard and Stephenson were in full command. The runs came at just the right pace. It was a familiar story for opponents of Essex as Kent watched first Stephenson then Prichard reached 50 taking no extreme chances as the score galloped along.

Their partnership had extended well into a third hour when Stephenson mistimed and was caught at extra cover. Prichard's second century of the match — the first time he had accomplished the feat — was

probably less important to him than the ugly-looking pull to a good length ball from Headley which saw the back of Lewis. A brilliant caught and bowled, also by Headley, left Prichard shaking his head in disbelief, and then Kent saw their chance.

Headley had proved his worth with three prime wickets. Now Hooper and Davis were more than a match for the Essex middle and tail. Despite Pringle's valiant effort, which kept Essex in with a chance almost to the end. Essex, from needing 92 off 20 overs with six wickets left were still 36 short when Childs joined Gurnham. They had no choice but to shut up shop.

Kent were hustled to the point of declaration by incomparable stroke play by Hooper, a sound innings by Long and a typically robust sally

from Fleming during which a red projectile was often sighted in the air above mid-off and mid-on. Hooper needed only 23 balls to add 34 to his overnight 108. His 142 had come faster than a rumour ball. What with his hundred on Sunday he will remember fondly this week at the Mote. By contrast, few bowlers on either side will be seeking an aerial photograph of the ground, runs during this week have, if anything, been too easy to come by. But it has all been good crowd pleasing stuff. Alan Hoggenden has withdrawn from the England representative side due to play two one-day matches against Holland in Amsterdam this Friday and Saturday. The Kent opener has been replaced by the Yorkshire fast bowler, Darren Gough.

MUSH ROUTED

## Middlesex conjure astonishing triumph

By IVO TENNANT

CARDIFF (final day of four): Middlesex (20pts) bt Glamorgan (3) by ten wickets

EVEN Mike Brearley would have been hard put to conjure a victory as his successor did yesterday.

Harangued by all and sundry for batting on in the morning with a view to bowling out opponents who had made 562 for three in their first innings, Mike Gatting and his Middlesex side did exactly that.

They won, astonishingly enough, by ten wickets, having dismissed Glamorgan for 109. Tufnell, like Gatting, discarded by England, took career-best figures of eight for 29 while Emburey had a near fruitless bowl at the other end.

It gave him some inkling of how Tony Lock felt when Jim Laker was dismissing Australian after Australian all those years ago.

It was not that Emburey bowled badly or indeed that Tufnell spun the ball to any excessive degree. He varied his pace, was markedly accurate and gained sufficient turn to account for a side that looked anything but in contention for the championship. What price an England recall before the summer is another matter.

Durham had a similar experience earlier in the season when they made 515 for nine against Lancashire and still lost. Yesterday morning, it seemed that the only conceivable chance Middlesex had of winning was to declare at the overnight total, 85 runs behind, and enter into collusion as to the target they would be left.

Gatting thought otherwise and, anyway, he could not come to an understanding with Morris. Middlesex batted on until all out shortly before lunch for 584, the highest score made at Sophia Gardens by a visiting county, which gave them a first-innings lead of 22.

Even in the days of Compton and Edrich, there were never such scores in this fixture.

For the Glamorgan scorer, the prognostications were

gloomy. When in 1972, Jones and Fredericks put on 330, then their highest stand for any wicket. Glamorgan were still beaten. When Dale and Richards broke that by adding 425 in the first innings, he had a prescient feeling that they would be beaten again.

If anything, Tufnell pushed the ball through quicker than he would normally have done. That there was no discernible attempt to hit him off his length was because nobody stayed long enough to attempt to do so.

Of the first six batsmen, three could be said to have got themselves out and the others, the crucial three — Morris, Maynard and Richards — were removed by Tufnell.

James was bowled not playing a shot, Dale was leg-before to a quickish arm ball and Cottee run out by Gatting as, advancing down the pitch, he prodded the ball forward only as far as silly point.

Morris, to his credit, walked when taken at the wicket and Maynard bludgeoned one or two fours before he failed to counter a ball that lifted.

But the vital wicket was that of Richards. Over the first two days, he had made an unbeaten 224 with a swagger that made his imminent retirement look absurd. On Sunday, he had put the ball on to the pavilion roof, and there are not many who can manage that in middle age.

Yet now he went first ball, to Tufnell. The ball lifted, turned and lobbed into short leg's hands off a glove and, with that one ball, the match was won.

By tea, Tufnell had taken seven for 28 and he gained his eighth wicket immediately afterwards. Watkin being picked up at short leg.

Emburey, greatly to his relief, had Barwick, the last batsman, caught in the same position. This was Carr's fourth catch.

So Middlesex were left needing to make 88. Time was not an issue. The difference in their batting was the way in which Haynes managed to scotch such spin as Croft and Richards extracted. The manner in which he drove down the ground was pretty impressive, too.

One six off Croft over long on was a masterly amalgam of strength and timing.

There were 13 overs remaining when Haynes reached his half century with the shot that won the match. It gave Middlesex a lead of 30 points in the championship table, restored Tufnell's jaunty cockiness and left Glamorgan to ponder exactly where it is, went wrong before they play on this same pitch in their NatWest match tomorrow.

Tufnell: best figures

Saturday July 10

VICTORIA

SECOND DIVISION

1 Chelms v Brix Hill

2 Clifton Hill v Barnetford

3 Devon v Chelms

4 Salisbury v Sandringham

5 Salisbury v Wootton Bassett

6 Weymouth v Salisbury U

VICTORIA

THIRD DIVISION

1 Llandovery Castle v Llandovery

2 Llandovery Castle v Llandovery

3 Llandovery Castle v Llandovery

4 Llandovery Castle v Llandovery

5 Llandovery Castle v Llandovery

6 Llandovery Castle v Llandovery

VICTORIA

FOURTH DIVISION

1 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

2 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

3 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

4 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

5 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

6 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

VICTORIA

FIFTH DIVISION

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2 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

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4 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

5 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

6 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

VICTORIA

SIXTH DIVISION

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6 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

VICTORIA

SEVENTH DIVISION

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VICTORIA

EIGHTH DIVISION

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VICTORIA

NINTH DIVISION

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VICTORIA

TENTH DIVISION

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VICTORIA

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VICTORIA

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VICTORIA

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VICTORIA

FOURTEENTH DIVISION

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VICTORIA

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VICTORIA

ONE AND A HALF DIVISION

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VICTORIA

TWO DIVISION

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VICTORIA

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VICTORIA

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VICTORIA

SIX DIVISION

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VICTORIA

SEVEN DIVISION

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6 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

VICTORIA

EIGHT DIVISION

1 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

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4 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

5 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

6 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

VICTORIA

NINE DIVISION

1 Glamorgan v Glamorgan

2 Glamorgan v Glamorgan



## Richard Evans finds Peter Chapple-Hyam able to decline Arab patronage

## Rapid rise built on instinctive talent

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Robert Sangster has every right to regard Shaikh Mohammed as his most ardent fan.

After trying to emulate the success of the Northern Dancer, before hiring Steve Cauthen, the jockey Sangster originally imported from the United States, the Dubai defence minister has recently paid another mighty compliment to his long-time racing rival by attempting to recruit the training talents of Peter Chapple-Hyam.

The approach came at Royal Ascot, where Sangster enjoyed four victories, including a trio of prized two-year-old triumphs with Chapple-Hyam-trained juveniles, compared with a solitary handicap suc-

cess. Stoute and Hannon. The exploits of Rodrigo De Triano and Dr Devious are now being supplemented by the achievements of an outstanding crop of two-year-olds that prompt dreams of more classic success in 1994.

For Sangster, the Manton revival has enabled him to again taste the glory achieved in the late Seventies and early Eighties with Vincent O'Brien before the oil-rich Arabs forced him to retreat from the casino atmosphere of the Keeneland sales ring in many ways, success the second time around is even sweeter.

Achieved largely with home-bred stock, trained in his own complex by a relatively unknown talent, Sangster can see his judgment vindicated in dashing style on the best days of the racing year.

Could the success continue if, say, within two years, up to half the horses at Manton were owned by Sangster's chief competitor? Would Sangster get the same pleasure out of seeing horses working on his fabulous gallops knowing that groups of them were to carry the shaikh's maroon-and-white silks? The offer of Shaikh Mohammed was regarded as a considerable honour but, given what is at stake, the response is likely to be a courteous no thank you.

The shaikh's obvious admiration of Chapple-Hyam's skills should be reinforced at Newmarket's three-day July meeting, starting today, where he witnesses more of his unruly two-year-olds as well as running the Norfolk Stakes winner, Turtle Island, in the July Stakes. Victory is confidently forecast.

Turtle Island was Chapple-Hyam's first two-year-old runner of the season and a five-length victory at Newbury augured well for the rest of his youngsters.

"When I returned from holiday in January, they were only cantering on the shavings, but



Winning team: Chapple-Hyam casts an expert eye over Turtle Island before his July Stakes appearance

I spoke to Robert then and said: 'These are all very good or no good at all.'

The strength of his two-year-old team should not come as a surprise. After receiving the equivalent of Sangster cast-offs in his first season, and middle-ranking yearlings a year later, Chapple-Hyam was entrusted with the cream of the home-bred last winter.

"It is like starting afresh," he said. "Many people said that this year I would disappear into the wilderness without Rodrigo and the Doctor. I was

slightly worried but I thought: 'Well, show them!'

And how. While the racing public is already aware of Turtle Island and the other Royal Ascot winners, State Performer and Stonehatch, at least another ten two-year-olds waiting in the wings 'are nearly as good or just as good as them'.

Stonehatch is likely to wait for Goodwood and the Richmond Stakes before following the Rodrigo De Triano path to Doncaster for the Champagne Stakes and the Middle Park

Stakes at Newmarket. State Performer goes for the Marlborough Bowl at Newbury on Saturday week.

Pinpointing the reason for Chapple-Hyam's success is not easy. Good horses obviously help. The relaxed atmosphere at Manton, away from busy roads, transfers itself readily to the racecourse, where his runners tend to settle well and travel smoothly.

After several visits to Australia, Chapple-Hyam believes in working horses over short

distances, in order to inject speed, rather than worry about stamina limitations. He is fiercely competitive, has an eye for detail and with Ben Sangster, son of Robert, looking after the business side at Manton, he is unencumbered by financial worries.

But that is not the whole answer. Perhaps, like Henry Cecil, he has a natural empathy with horses, almost a sixth sense. Whatever the magic ingredient, it cannot be bought — least of all by Shaikh Mohammed.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

## NEWMARKET

2.35: Ballerina Bay can put her turn of foot to good use off the likely strong pace. Pat Eddery got the best from this consistent mare at Kempton last time. Self Expression adopted front-running tactics when successful last time out, but may struggle to repeat that performance.

3.05: Lemon Souffle has been so impressive in her two victories that she should be followed until beaten. She has most to fear from Double Down, who had Braari back in third when making a winning debut at Sandown. Double Down got bogged down in the soft at Royal Ascot, where Shippe Hall was second. However, the latter was subsequently fortunate to beat Rohita, whom she now meets on 3lb worse terms. Izza has potential.

3.40: Zinaad will relish the return to a galloping track after appearing unsuited to the demands of Chester and Epsom. He can surprise Red Bishop and Jeanne, who was more than two lengths behind Zinaad on the Rowley Mile course in April. Jeanne and Red Bishop are closely matched the latter has a 3lb pull for the neck by which Jeanne beat him at Royal Ascot.

4.10: This tricky sprint is best left to the in-form Loch Patrick, who remains fairly handicapped. He just got up over the minimum trip at Ascot last time. True Precision accounted for Young Ern and Troon in a Newmarket handicap but will do well to confirm those placings on these terms.

JULIAN MUSCAT

## Nelissen snatches lead from champion Indurain

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

WILFRIED Nelissen, of Belgium, won the second stage of the Tour de France, from Les Sables d'Olonne to Vannes, after a sprint finish yesterday to take the leader's yellow jersey from the champion, Miguel Indurain, of Spain.

Nelissen, 23, who has been a professional for two years, made his move with just 400 metres to go following a breakthrough by the world champion, Gianni Bugno, of Italy, three kilometres from the finish of the 227.5km stage.

He led home a small group of riders with Diamantine Aboujapour, of Uzbekistan, a faller on Sunday, in second place, Mario Cipollini, the Italian, finished third, and Olaf Ludwig, of Germany, was fourth.

Nelissen, who rides for Novemall, completed the stage in 5hr 41min 5sec for a combined time of 10hr 41min 35sec.

Indurain, of the Banesto team and winner for the last two years, finished in the main group six seconds behind the front-runners, but lost the lead he took in Saturday's prologue after Nelissen earned a time bonus of 12 seconds for winning the first two intermediate sprints of the day.

The Spaniard is in second place overall, 17 seconds behind Nelissen, the first Belgian to wear the yellow jersey since Eric Vanderaerden, in 1985.

Cipollini moved up to third place in the overall standings, 21 seconds off the lead with Bugno in fourth, a further five seconds behind.

Nelissen had started the day



Cipollini: third place

in fifth place, 17 seconds behind Indurain, but took the yellow jersey after his team's plan for the stage worked to perfection.

"I'd never won an intermediate sprint in my life before," Nelissen said. "But the team instructions were to go for the sprints as there was a chance to take the yellow jersey."

"It's unbelievable for me to have the yellow jersey and I think it's unbelievable for Belgium too."

Indurain shrugged off the loss of the overall lead. "I have to accept it. It's the rules of the game," he said. "But I hope I can get it back again." There were many falls during the stage, along the west coast of France, which featured a breakthrough after about 100km by the Frenchman, Thierry Marie, and Jan Svoboda, of Slovakia. The pair moved away after an intermediate sprint at Chauve and opened a lead of six minutes despite riding into a strong headwind.

But the peloton worked hard to haul them back and finally caught them with just 17km remaining.

RESULTS: Second stage (227.5km from Les Sables d'Olonne to Vannes), 1. W. Nelissen (Bel), 2. M. Cipollini (Ita), 3. M. Indurain (Spa), 4. G. Bugno (Ita), 5. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 6. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 7. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 8. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 9. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 10. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 11. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 12. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 13. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 14. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 15. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 16. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 17. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 18. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 19. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 20. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 21. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 22. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 23. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 24. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 25. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 26. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 27. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 28. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 29. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 30. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 31. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 32. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 33. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 34. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 35. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 36. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 37. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 38. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 39. M. Rodriguez (Spa), 40. M. 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## CHANNEL 4

- 6.30 **Hearthill**. Cartoon adventures of a mischievous tom (1271438) **6.45 Divide**. Animated adventures of a duck-billed platypus (9260651)
- 7.00 **The Big Breakfast** (1895) **7.05** **Cartoon**
- 9.00 **Saved by the Bell**. Teenage American drama (42761)
- 9.30 **Batman and Robin** (1) (5674631) **9.50 Zeno** (1) **Scared**. Hungarian animation (4435970) **9.55 Once Upon A Time...Space**. Animated space exploration (1) (6035964) **10.25 Divide**. Why do the big ordinary-looking things are so valuable? (1) (448554)
- 10.55 **The Adventures of Tintin**. Hergé's hero brings smugglers to justice (1) (5358361) **11.20 The New Big Thing**. Drama series following the fortunes of an indie band striving for success (1) (17667812) **The Three Faces of a Cat**. Bulgarian cartoon by Doris Doner (1887167)
- 12.00 **The Parliament Programme**. Anne Perkins with a roundup of yesterday's news from both Houses (62252)
- 12.30 **Sesame Street**. Entertaining early-learning series. The guests is Harve Hancock (1) (18993)
- 1.00 **Take Five**. Cartoons (72460)
- 2.00 **Ceans of Wealth**. The first of four programmes examining the problems involved in developing the oceans' resources (1) (14479780)
- 2.25 **Cartoon**. 4 Racehorses in the marketplace. Bought! Scott introduces live coverage of the 2.35, 3.05, 3.40 and 4.10 races (66559631)
- 3.40 **Countdown**. Words and numbers game presented by Richard Whitley (Teletext) (3) (72)
- 5.00 **The Welsh Woman**. A comedy series that tries to answer some of the thousands of agony aunt letters she receives each week (240270)
- 5.50 **The Magic Roundabout** (372693)
- 6.00 **Mork and Mindy**. American comedy series starring Robin Williams as a time-traveller (1) (525)
- 6.30 **Eerie, Indiana**. Off-beat American comedy drama (3) (877)
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext) and weather (204780)
- 7.50 **Comment**. Suzon Forcay-Moore argues that



**Striding a deal: Claire King as Kim (7.00pm)**

**EUROSPORT**

<p>Black is forced to solve a murder case without using existing clues.</p> <p>2.40 <b>Force of Honor</b> (1987). Martial arts thriller with Shi Kasei (<i>285773</i>).</p> <p>4.30 <b>Force of Honor</b> (1980). Jan-Vincent Vinther as the hero. <i>311028</i> in the Japanese version. Ends at 6.00</p> <p><b>SKY MOVIES GOLD</b></p> <p>6.00pm <b>The Captured Spur</b> (1953). James Stewart plays the captured spy. <i>198020</i></p> <p>8.00pm <b>Backy</b> (1976). Sylvester Stallone as the President. <i>198020</i></p> <p>10.00 <b>The Winner Man</b> (1973). Edward Woodward does double duty as a socialist and a millionaire. <i>198020</i></p> <p><b>THE MOVIE CHANNEL</b></p> <p>6.00am <b>Caroline</b> Brown (1944, b/w). Comedy with Gary Cooper and Teresa Wright. <i>303032</i></p> <p>8.00am <b>The Case of the Falcon: Christopher</b> (adventure) (<i>592612</i>)</p> <p>9.40 <b>Goodfellas</b> (1988). 1959: The second war was fierce. <i>31677803</i></p> <p>11.25 <b>Backy</b> (1976). Sylvester Stallone as the President. <i>198020</i></p> <p>1.00am <b>Caroline</b> Brown (1944, b/w). Comedy with Gary Cooper and Teresa Wright. <i>303032</i></p> <p>3.00am <b>Backy</b> (1976). Sylvester Stallone as the President. <i>198020</i></p> <p>5.00am <b>Caroline</b> Brown (1944, b/w). Comedy with Gary Cooper and Teresa Wright. <i>303032</i></p>	<p><b>EUROSPOT</b></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>1.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>3.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>5.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>7.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>9.30am <b>Spot</b> (1987). <i>285773</i></p> <p>11.30am &lt;</p>
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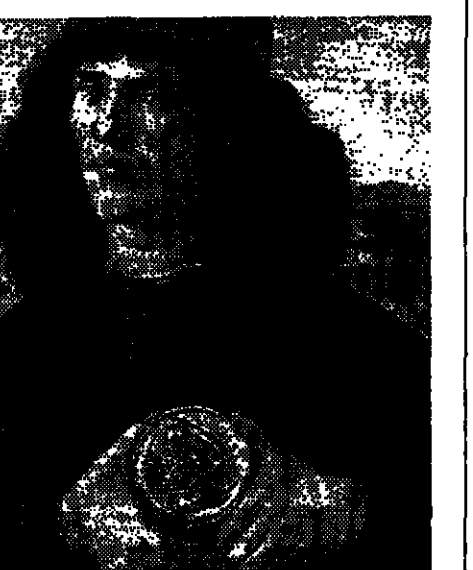
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## CRICKET 40

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## SPORT

TUESDAY JULY 6 1993

## TENNIS 42

WIMBLEDON'S APPEAL  
UNDER THREAT  
FROM POWER GAME

Thorpe plays impressive supporting role in exposing shortcomings of Australia's attack

# Gooch keeps England's Ashes hopes alive

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

TRENT BRIDGE (fourth day of five): England, with four second-innings wickets in hand, are 310 runs ahead of Australia.

THEY came to Trent Bridge for a last, respectful viewing of the body, only to discover that the patient could not yet be pronounced dead. It might have been the day to bid farewell both to an Ashes crusade and an England captain. Instead, it was a day when the captain kept the Ashes alive.

Graham Gooch has played greater innings than the 120 he made in the third Cornhill Test yesterday, though most of his contemporaries have not. Never, though, even in his turbulent years in charge of England, has he batted under such an onerous burden regarding the future of a match, a series and his own career.

That he could rise above it all to play in commanding fashion for all but 70 minutes of the penultimate day, carrying England to virtual safety

acknowledge in the series, Thorpe is, more importantly, strikingly composed. Unfussy of style, he played far more than a stooge's role in a sixth-wicket stand of 150 with Gooch, which may, in weeks to come, be identified as a turning point of the summer.

In taking only two England wickets, Australia suffered their most deflating day of the series. It is too soon to conclude that the tide has begun to turn, not least because Merv Hughes was off the field for half the day nursing a groin strain. That very fact, however, is enough to set the alarm bells ringing in an Australian dressing-room not bursting with quality bowling replacements.

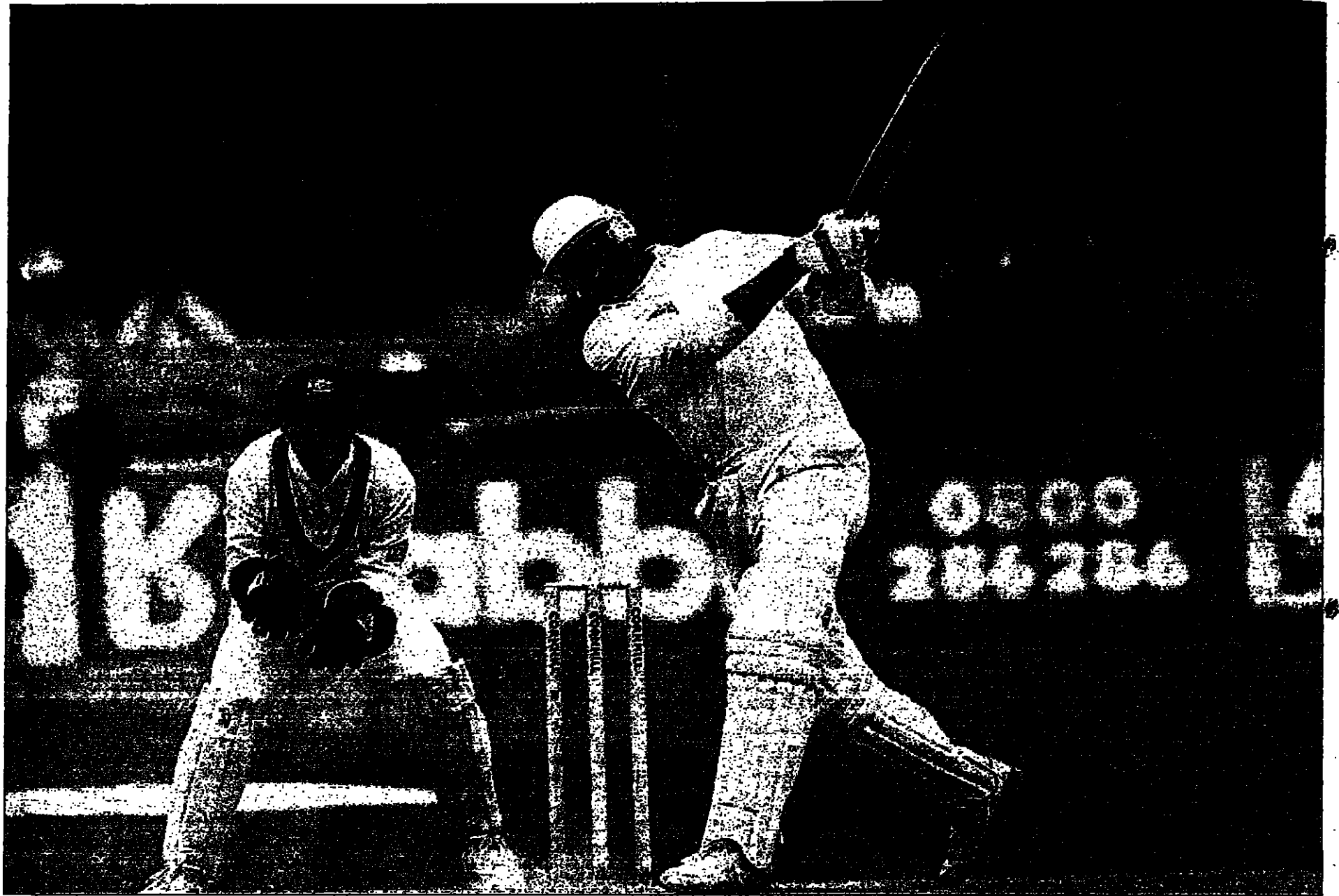
With Brendon Julian largely ineffective — though he did give Gooch his solitary life when he had made 82 — Allan Border would have liked to have entrusted the job of bowling England out to his two spinners. But Gooch took an early fancy to the disorientated offerings of Tim May and the pitch, while turning, was too slow to give Shane Warne real test.

And so, in contrast to the gloomiest forecasts that had the innings over by lunch and the game over before supper, England just battled blithely on and on. By the close, they had a lead of such proportions that Australia will not risk their 2-0 lead in the series in a run-chase, but they might just be embarrassed in the last two sessions.

Sporting Index, the book-makers, reported that they did not take a single wager on England to score more than 280 or for Gooch to make more than 60, which shows the low public expectations of the national team. It may not be too much to hope that these must now be revised, for yesterday's herculean efforts simply added to a match of high promise.

Caddick, who has at last begun to bowl for England more he does for Somerset, has also continued to belie his role as a batting tailender. By the time he nudged Julian to short leg yesterday, he had occupied the crease for 442 minutes in three Tests, a good deal longer than some of the specialist batsmen.

By then Gooch had already announced that he would not be dictated terms by the spin bowlers, hitting Warne back over his head for four. He reached his half-century with a similar shot off May, who was subsequently treated with such disrespect that Border



Driving force: Gooch takes the initiative against the off-spinner, May, during the century that led England to safety in the third Test at Trent Bridge yesterday

## 8,000 CLUB

Test	Runs	Avg
A R Border	714	10.42
S M Gavaskar	125	10.12
Javed Miandad	121	8.98
I V A Richards	121	8.54
D L Gower	117	8.23
G Boycott	108	8.14
G S Sobers	83	8.02
G A Gooch	103	8.07

\* includes present match

and to within visions of victory, restated the immense stature of a man who still attracts as much uninformed criticism as respect.

This was Gooch's eleventh century in 27 Tests since he resumed the captaincy in 1990. It was also, incidentally, his first in 12 Tests batting down the order, where a new role has opened up that could yet employ him in home Tests for another couple of years. If so, having become the third Englishman to pass 8,000 runs at this level yesterday, he looks certain to eclipse both Boycott and Gower.

Gooch did not, of course, cope alone. Graham Thorpe ensured he did not have to try. Coming in at the fall of the implacable Andy Caddick 70 minutes into the day, Thorpe batted through to the close, when he was unbeaten on 88. Gooch and the other selectors, derided for choosing Thorpe to make his debut with an average of 25 this season, can feel thoroughly vindicated.

Left-handed, a virtue that the selectors have been slow to

had to withdraw him and bowl himself, something he was loathe to do as he was visibly debilitated by a viral complaint.

Between lunch and tea, Gooch faced 89 balls and scored from only eight of

them. It was a change of mood, his belligerence against spin giving way to introspection against seam, but he was not about to give it all away. Gooch made just 21 of the 54 runs in the session but no wicket was lost and Thorpe

had by now begun to look a genuine Test player.

He was unruffled by anything the Australians confronted him with, which yesterday appeared to include none of the verbal aggression which earned them an official

reprimand on Saturday. Having accelerated through the final session, by the close Thorpe was batting as he does when setting up a declaration for Surrey. He may not have known that England are seldom in a position to think of such luxuries.

For all the credit due to the debutant, however, this was Gooch's day once more. He reached his century in five hours, with a characteristic four off his legs against Julian. He fell to a ball from Warne that turned wickedly out of the leg-stump rough. By then the least England could look forward to was a draw and the extension of interest in a series which had seemed about to expire.

Photograph, page 40  
Middlesex triumph, page 40

## England won test

First innings 321 (A R Smith 88, N Hussain 71; M G Hughes 5 for 82).

## Second innings

	6s	4s	Min	Balls
M N Lushwell bow to Warne	33	3	122	90
offered no stroke				
M A Atherton c Healy b Hughes	9	1	28	26
attempted hook edged low to keeper				
A R Smith c Healy b Warne	50	8	79	71
outside edge, pushing forward				
1A J Stewart bow to Hughes	6	1	30	30
edging forward				
*G A Gooch c Taylor b Warne	120	18	325	266
edged by leg break to slip				
A R Caddick c Boon b Julian	12	2	84	76
turned ball off hip to short-leg				
G P Thorpe not out	88	8	284	254

N Hussain not out 16 - 2 71 65

Extras (b 11, lb 10, 7) 28

Total (6 wickets, 522 min, 146 overs) 382

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11 (Lushwell not out 2), 2-100 (Lushwell 29, 3-109 (Stewart 5), 4-117 (Gooch 7), 5-159 (Gooch 35), 6-308 (Thorpe 55).

BOWLING: Hughes 22-8-41-2 (5-3-21-1, 9-4-8-1, 5-1-11-0); Julian 28-10-77-1 (10-1-62-11-0, 5-1-28-0, 14-7-28-0, 3-0-11-0); May 38-8-112-4 (10-0-4-0-25-0, 5-1-16-0, 7-1-18-0, 3-0-7-0); 18-4-45-0; Warne 47-21-33-3 (2-0-14-0, 22-13-34-2, 7-3-13-0, 3-0-10-0, 12-4-22-1, 1-1-0-0); S R Waugh 1-0-3-0; Border 5-0-11-0 (1-0-3-0, 4-0-5-0); M E Waugh 4-2-4-0 (1-0-3-0 one spin); Smith 50: 78 min, 69 balls, 9 fours, Gooch 50: 117, 93, 10, 100; 280, 235, 16, 1 six, Thorpe 50: 207, 176, 4.

## AUSTRALIA

First innings 373 (D C Boon 101, M E Waugh 70; M J McGee 4 for 121).

Umpires: B J Meyer and R Palmer.

## Captain's true greatness revealed in adversity

By Michael Henderson



Caddick: lent support

BRILLIANCE dazzles, greatness endures. Whatever memories people take away from this match — Waugh's casual mastery or, less agreeably, the inanity of a section of the crowd oblivious to the finer points of Test cricket — it is to Graham Gooch that cricket lovers should bend the knee.

He has played better, and against better bowling, but in making his nineteenth Test hundred in circumstances that others would have found enervating, Gooch drew on his vast resources of that rarest quality. Now there is the chance, however slight, that by his winning another personal battle, England may also win.

Greatness should not be a word that

comes easily, for so few achieve it and it comes at a price. Alongside Rembrandt, Beethoven and Chekhov, what is a cricketer? Within his limited world, Gooch is indisputably a great player; David Gower, his natural antipode, is brilliant though probably not great.

Gooch was also a brilliant player once. Old though it may seem to recall, the man who has made 11 hundreds in his last 27 Tests went through 21 in search of his first. When he retires from international cricket next month he should have established himself as the highest English runmaker in Test cricket.

If a batsman's mettle can be judged by his response to adversity Gooch has made three centuries in successive

summers which testify to his. After that unbeaten 154 against West Indies at Headingley, and the 135 he made on the same ground last year against Pakistan, both of which helped win matches that would otherwise have been beyond reach, came yesterday's innings which was no less important for being understated.

Sensation seekers who pine for that most overrated quality, "charisma", may give up with Gooch. Publicly he may be a sourpuss, a misery-guts and a cautious captain but as a Test batsman he has had no equal since Geoff Boycott and there may not have been a better player for all seasons since Len Hutton.

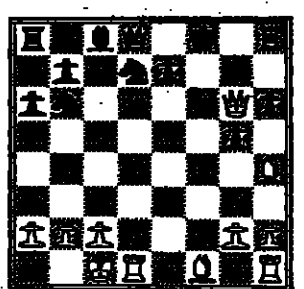
How apt that, on the day the Australians were minding their Ps

and Qs (not to mention other letters), Gooch should administer a reminder that a proper competitive instinct can exist without recourse to unseemly behaviour. Test cricket has always been hard, and when played by the likes of Merv Hughes at his hostile best, can be enthralling. Any idea that positing or shrieking at an umpire indicates manliness insults the memory of finer players who were no less competitive but made less fuss.

What a pity Brendon Julian chose not to applaud Gooch's century, which was achieved with a legside boundary off him. If he thinks that sort of behaviour is for softies, his education is about to begin. There was only one true hard man at Trent Bridge yesterday.

By Raymond Keene

Ever since the great French master Philidor chose London as his refuge from the French revolution, London has been a Mecca for chess. This position is a possible conclusion from the game McDonald — Hodgson, Lloyds Bank Masters, London 1992. Before the tournament Julian Hodgson had scored a record 10/11 in the British Championship. Here, however, he was brought down to earth. How can white continue?



Solution on page 40  
Championship Chess, page 9

By Philip Howard

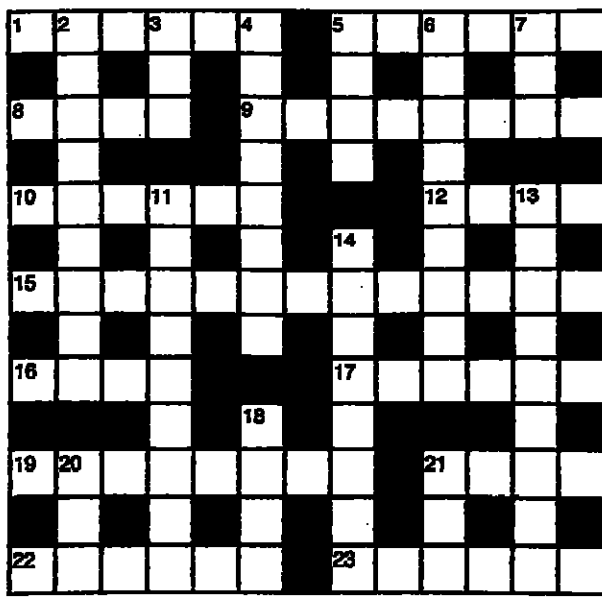
EXCLAVE  
a. A master key  
b. Opposite of an enclave  
c. To manumit a slave

KARABAGH  
a. A travelling bag  
b. A thick, knotted rug  
c. An unwritten agreement

TARKASHI  
a. Wood inlaid with brass  
b. A police assistant  
c. A turban cover

PSEUDORANDOM  
a. Not properly random  
b. Synthetic carborundum  
c. Insincerity

Answers on page 40



## ACROSS

- Crush (6)
- Benne (6)
- Pavement edge (4)
- Straggling (8)
- Special abilities (6)
- Wine cask (4)
- Object of derision (8.5)
- Yard sections (4)
- Knitting colouring (3.3)
- Hand gun (8)
- Masticate (4)
- Festive (6)
- Central America canal (6)

## DOWN

- Winning position (5.4)
- Old ship (3)
- Privation (8)
- Not all (4)
- Potassium nitrate (4.5)
- Crew (3)
- Easy task (5.4)
- Elephant, rhino (9)
- Artistic propaganda (8)
- Finished with (4)
- Night before (3)
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## South Africa to tour

ENGLAND and South African cricket officials, meeting over the past few days, have finalised details of the reciprocal tours that will contain the first Test series between the countries for almost 30 years (Alan Lee writes).

The itinerary for next summer's visit by the South Africans, in which the three Tests will include one at Lord's, will be announced next week and Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, confirmed yes-

terday that England would make a full, five-Test tour of his country in 1995-6.

This coming winter, England are to send their A team to South Africa for two months. The tour will begin early in December and include four-day, first-class games against the leading provinces and midweek one-day matches in the townships.

It will end, late in January, with a five-day unofficial Test match against South Africa A.

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